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PART V.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF EGYPT.

22

August 1882.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of Egypt.

PART V.

No. 1.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1.)

(No. 849.)

My Lord,

Paris, July 31, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of a letter and inclosures which I received last night from M. de Freycinet.

It appears from these papers that the French officials having conceived apprehensions that the cholera may be brought to Egypt by the British troops understood to be coming from India, desire to recommend certain precautionary measures to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

M. de Freycinet to Viscount Lyons.

Mon cher Ambassadeur,

Paris, le 30 Juillet, 1882.

L'ATTENTION du Ministre du Commerce a été appelée par la Commission d'Hygiène sur les dangers qui pourraient menacer, au point de vue sanitaire, l'Égypte et par suite l'Europe, dans le cas où des précautions suffisantes ne seraient pas prises lors de l'envoi en Égypte des contingents Anglais provenant de l'Inde. Mon collègue au Département de la Guerre a dû être saisi de la même question, étant donnée l'hypothèse où des troupes Françaises viendraient à être dirigées sur le Canal de Suez et à s'y trouver en contact avec des contingents Indiens.

J'ai dû être frappé des préoccupations conçues par mes deux collègues, et il me serait difficile de ne pas les partager dans une certaine mesure. Je prends donc la liberté de vous en entretenir, dans la pensée que vous ne vous refuserez pas à les signaler à votre Gouvernement. Je vous transmets d'ailleurs, à titre d'indication utilisable, les notes que M. Tirard et le Général Billot m'ont communiquées à cette occasion.

Votre, &c.
(Signé) C. DE FREYCINET.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

*M. Tirard to M. de Freycinet.**Paris, le 25 Juillet, 1882.*

M. FAUVEL, Inspecteur-Général de Services Sanitaires, près de mon Ministère, vient de m'adresser un Rapport par lequel il signale les dangers qui pourraient résulter pour la santé publique en Europe de l'importation en Égypte par les troupes Anglaises

provenant de l'Inde, du choléra qui existe actuellement sur plusieurs points des possessions Anglaises de l'Inde, notamment à Calcutta, et dont on signale en ce moment une recrudescence. M. Fauvel fait remarquer dans ce Rapport que le transport par mer des troupes provenant des lieux où règne la maladie, constitue un grand danger d'importation qui ne saurait être conjuré que par des précautions très sérieuses.

J'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-joint une copie du Rapport dont il s'agit, en signalant particulièrement à votre attention les mesures de préservation préconisées par M. le Docteur Fauvel.

Vous penserez, sans doute, qu'il y aurait lieu de faire à cet égard une communication au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, en vue d'arrêter, d'accord avec lui, les dispositions propres à prévenir l'invasion du fléau.

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Report by M. Fauvel.

EN présence de l'éventualité plus ou moins prochaine de l'envoi d'un corps d'armée Français en Égypte, je m'empresse d'appeler votre attention sur le danger d'une invasion dans ce pays, et par conséquent parmi nos troupes, du choléra importé par les contingents Anglais provenant de l'Inde.

En effet, on signale en ce moment une recrudescence de la terrible maladie sur plusieurs points des possessions Anglaises, notamment à Calcutta, et il est certain qu'elle règne dans les îles Hollandaises.

Dans ces conditions, le transport par mer de troupes provenant de lieux où règne le choléra constitue un grand danger d'importation qui ne saurait être confiné que par des précautions très sérieuses.

Il importe, en effet, de considérer que, si le choléra éclatait parmi nos troupes dans les conditions climatiques où elles vont se trouver, il en résulterait un désastre.

Il y a donc lieu selon moi de faire le possible pour prévenir l'importation de la maladie en Égypte par la Mer Rouge et surtout par le Canal de Suez que nos soldats sont, dit-on, appelés à défendre.

J'estime qu'il y a grand intérêt à ce que MM. les Ministres de la Guerre, de la Marine, et des Affaires Étrangères soient prévenus par vous de ce danger.

J'en ai parlé officieusement à mes collègues du Comité d'Hygiène, MM. Legonest, Richard, Clavery, et Wurtz, qui partagent entièrement ma manière de voir; mais j'ai tenu à vous faire part directement de mes appréhensions en votre qualité de Ministre chargé de préserver la santé publique.

Il est certain, d'ailleurs, que si l'Égypte était envahie, l'Europe dans les conditions actuelles ne tarderait pas à l'être.

D'autre part, j'ai la conviction que le danger qui menace l'Égypte et notre armée pourrait être confiné par des mesures très simples, mais scrupuleusement appliquées.

La première serait que le Gouvernement Anglais ordonnât que tous les navires chargés de troupes venant de l'Inde ne fussent autorisés à franchir le détroit de Bab-el-Mandeb qu'après une visite médicale satisfaisante pratiquée à Aden.

La seconde, que les navires autorisés à entrer dans la Mer Rouge ne pussent débarquer leurs troupes à Suez ou dans le Canal qu'après une nouvelle visite médicale affirmant l'absence d'accidents cholériques à bord.

Dans le cas de suspicion les troupes du navire suspect seraient transportées sur un point déterminé, à Tor, par exemple, où elles feraient quarantaine.

Il serait à désirer que le chef et les médecins principaux de notre corps expéditionnaire reçussent des instructions dans ce sens, sans compter celles concernant les autres mesures d'hygiène que réclamerait la situation.

(Signé) FAUVEL.

Inclosure 4 in No. 1.

Memorandum by M. Baiseau.

L'ENVOI en Égypte de troupes Anglaises tirées de l'Inde doit éveiller l'attention, au point de vue de l'importation du choléra en Égypte et de là en Europe. Cette affection, à l'état endémique à Bombay et dans toutes les parties de l'Inde qu'arrose le Gange, a été la source de différentes épidémies qui se sont manifestées en Europe.

Des études sérieuses ont fait connaître la marche et la propagation du choléra; il n'y a plus de doute à avoir sur son mode d'importation. Dans toutes les épidémies qui ont sévi en Europe, quelle que soit la route qu'elles aient suivie, on voit le fléau s'avancer à la suite des caravanes et des armées. Pour ne parler que des épidémies qui ont frappé l'armée Française je me bornerai à citer celle de la Dobruscha, qui fut importée à Gallipoli par un navire parti de Marseille, et l'épidémie toute aussi meurtrière qui, en 1859, fut communiquée par des Espagnols venant de Tasseviga à la colonne commandée par le Général Martimprey opérant sur les frontières du Maroc.

Depuis le percement de l'Isthme de Suez, qui a facilité les communications de l'Europe avec l'Inde et augmenté les transactions commerciales, le danger pour l'Europe est encore plus menaçant, et le choléra transporté presque chaque année à la Mecque par les Musulmans qui y vont en pèlerinage ne manquerait pas de nous atteindre si des mesures rigoureuses n'auraient été arrêtées en 1866 par la Conférence Internationale de Constantinople.

Le transport des troupes de l'Inde, leur entassement dans les navires, nous exposent aux mêmes dangers; il serait donc prudent, lors même que le choléra ne serait pas dans ce moment à l'état épidémique dans l'Inde, que le Gouvernement Anglais ne se départit pas des précautions qui ont été prises par les Commissions Sanitaires et entre autres par le Conseil International de Constantinople, qui vient de prescrire des quarantaines pour tous les navires à pèlerins provenant d'au delà du détroit de Bab-el-Mandeb.

Le Médecin Inspecteur-Directeur.
(Signé) BAISEAU.

No. 2.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1.)

(No. 850.)

My Lord,

Paris, July 31, 1882.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 165, and my despatch No. 813, both of the 26th instant, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a letter which I received last night from M. de Freycinet, and which relates to the supposed danger to Europeans at Bengazi.

The note states that the most recent information received by the French Government does not show that the Europeans at that place are in imminent danger, but that the French Ambassador at Constantinople has, nevertheless, been authorized to join Lord Dufferin and his other colleagues in making a representation to the Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 2.

M. de Freycinet to Viscount Lyons.

Mon cher Ambassadeur,

Paris, le 28 Juillet, 1882.

VOUS avez bien voulu, par votre lettre en date d'avant-hier, m'informer des indications fournies au Comte Granville par le Gérant du Consulat Britannique à Benghazi, et d'après lesquelles la population Européenne de cette ville aurait réclamé auprès des Consuls Anglais, Français, Autrichien, et Italien, la protection de leurs Gouvernements, contre d'imminents désordres provoqués par le fanatisme Musulman.

Les derniers rapports parvenus de la Tripolitaine ne me signalent encore aucun péril imminent pour les habitants Européens de Benghazi. Toutefois, j'ai cru devoir autoriser, par le courrier d'aujourd'hui, le Marquis de Noailles à faire auprès de la Porte Ottomane, d'accord avec Lord Dufferin et avec ses autres collègues, les démarches nécessaires pour prévenir les dangers qui pourraient menacer la sécurité publique dans cette partie de l'Afrique.

Je vous serai reconnaissant de transmettre cette information au Comte Granville, et de remercier son Excellence des renseignements que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de me transmettre.

Votre, &c.
(Signé) C. DE FREYCINET.

No. 3.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1.)

(No. 851.)

My Lord,

Paris, July 31, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a despatch from Captain Rice relative to the instructions to the French Admiral at Port Saïd.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 3.

Captain Rice, R.N., to Viscount Lyons.

(Strictly Confidential.)

My Lord,

Paris, July 31, 1882.

I HAVE this morning had an interview with the Minister of Marine, Admiral Jauréguiberry. His Excellency was inclined to be very frank, and appeared willing to give me every explanation or information I asked for.

I began by saying I should be glad to know whether any orders had been given to the French Admiral at Port Saïd in consequence of the vote in the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday evening last.

His Excellency said he had telegraphed *en clair* to Admiral Conrad to the effect that, the Chamber having refused the credit, the Admiral was to order the "Thétis" to return to Port Saïd from Ismaïlia, and to send "L'Alma" to Athens; that he was to cease patrolling or convoying vessels in the Canal, and was to remain at Port Saïd himself, preserving a strict neutrality, and further, that he was to communicate his instructions to the British Admiral.

I asked what part the French ships would take in the event of hostilities at Port Saïd, or of an *émeute* breaking out at that place; whether, in fact, the French ships had orders to leave as they did at Alexandria? His Excellency thought for a moment, and said, "Admiral Conrad's orders are to remain at Port Saïd; I presume he would do so in any case for the reception of refugees."

The Minister then went on voluntarily to say that public opinion at present seemed to him to be in favour of non-intervention; that, even if that opinion changed, it could not be given effect to, because the Chambers would probably be prorogued the end of this week, and that, therefore, I might safely tell the English Admiralty that for the present French co-operation was at an end. I inferred also from this that the Minister did not anticipate a dissolution.

His Excellency desired me to express to Lord Northbrook his appreciation of the cordial spirit in which the negotiations between the English and French Admiralties had been carried out, and of his entire personal concurrence in the proposed arrangements, and regret that circumstances had prevented their fulfilment.

In order to prove how loyally the French Ministry of Marine had prepared for their part in the joint occupation, his Excellency told me that the "Mytho" and "Annamite" transports at Toulon had stores, provisions, and ammunition on board for 2,500 men, and that these men and two batteries of artillery had been for some days waiting orders at Toulon to go on board at an hour's notice.

The Minister then went on to speak of the political situation. He said the vote was directed in a great degree against M. de Freycinet personally, and that it was impossible, in his opinion, that M. de Freycinet could form a new Cabinet. On my expressing a hope that he (Admiral Jauréguiberry) would remain, his Excellency said that he had been much pressed by his brother officers and others to do so, but that of course it depended upon the President. From this I infer the Admiral would have no objection to remain.

His Excellency quoted the telegram of Prince Bismarck, and said it was clear to him that Germany's object was to prevent the flags of France and England acting in concert alone.

The Minister also said that when the vote of the Chambers was announced to President Grévy he exclaimed: "Ah! now we can wash our hands of that Egyptian business, and attend to our affairs nearer home."

I mentioned M. de Lesseps to the Minister, and his Excellency said, "He is troublesome with Admiral Conrad." I then said I could use even a stronger word with regard to M. de Lesseps, and that his present action in the Canal was "obnoxious."

His Excellency then showed me a confidential telegram from Admiral Conrad, asking that, if possible, M. de Lesseps might be recalled to France, as he was disagreeable to him, and unjustifiably obstructing the English Admiral.

His Excellency added that of course they could do nothing, having no power over M. de Lesseps.

Admiral Jauréguiberry, in wishing me good-bye, said he was there now only to transact current business, and inferred that no change would be made in the present orders to the Admirals in command of the naval forces in the Mediterranean.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ERNEST RICE.

No. 4.

Saïd Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by Musurus Pasha, August 1.)

(Télégraphique.)

Constantinople, le 31 Juillet, 1882.

REÇU télégramme No. 54, Spécial, du 25 courant.

J'approuve le langage que votre Excellence a tenu dans cette circonstance.

Lancer une Proclamation quelconque avant l'arrivée de nos soldats à Alexandrie, ce serait prendre une mesure intempestive qui ne pourrait avoir aucun effet pratique et aggraverait même la situation. Dans l'état actuel des choses, il nous semble plus opportun et plus conforme à l'intérêt général de faire la Proclamation voulue en Égypte simultanément avec la présence de nos forces sur les lieux comme, d'ailleurs, cela a presque toujours eu lieu partout dans des circonstances analogues.

Je prie votre Excellence de bien faire pressentir la chose à Lord Granville de manière que sa Seigneurie veuille bien apprécier notre manière de voir dans le cas qui nous occupe.

No. 5.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 1.)

(Confidential.)

Admiralty, July 31, 1882.

THE Secretary of the Admiralty presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of telegrams to and from Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour respecting the steps to be taken in view of the existing state of affairs in the Suez Canal.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, July 29, 1882, 2.28 P.M.

OBTAIN from Khedive written authority for Hoskins to act on his behalf on the Canal, and, if necessary, to hold for him all places on the Canal, and the railway between Ismaïlia and Suez; also to remove rebel officers from all positions on the Canal, and if expedient to send them in custody to Alexandria. Acknowledge and report when this authority is obtained.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Admiral Sir B. Seymour to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, July 31, 1882, 4.40 P.M.

YOUR telegram of the 29th instant.

Full powers received and sent to Hoskins by "Ready."

Inclosure 3 in No. 5.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, July 31, 1882, 7.15 P.M.

SEND "Monarch" to Hoskins, and inform him that pending the appointment of a new Ministry in France we must be quiet in the Canal; he should, therefore, in his communication with French Admiral or M. de Lesseps, express his anxiety for French alliance, and say that, until Her Majesty's Government can communicate with the new French Ministry we shall maintain the *status quo* on the Canal, and that we shall not land unless for the protection of British subjects, or, if any attempt is made to block the Canal, which he is instructed to prevent by force.

Hewett is instructed not to land at Suez unless for the protection of British subjects for the present, but it is probable that, on arrival of regiment from Aden at Suez and of "Euphrates" at Alexandria, we shall occupy the Canal in the following manner:—Hewett to hold Suez. Regiments from Aden and "Euphrates" with 1,000 marines to hold Ismaïlia; marines and sailors to hold Kantara and Port Saïd. Arrangements should, therefore, be prepared secretly in communication with Hoskins to carry this plan into effect on your receiving orders.

We approve of your enforcing submission of forts at Aboukir, leaving manner to your discretion. After disposal of Aboukir forts, you should make a reconnaissance of Damietta, making no secret of this move, which is not for the purpose of action, but to divert attention from the Canal.

Your telegrams of the 31st instant and 1st August received. Orders now sent appear to meet opinions of General. Hoskins should not act upon Khedive's authority until proper time arrives.

Inclosure 4 in No. 5.

Admiral Sir B. Seymour to Lord Northbrook.

(Private.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, July 31, 1882, 10.30 P.M.

KHEDIVE has written to me expressing his anxiety about attacking Arabi Pasha with an inadequate inferior force.

Reported assembly Bedouins west Marabout; if confirmed shall take steps accordingly. Have two condensers and "Maulkins Tower" at work. "Monarch" goes Port Saïd to-morrow if state bar admits; am very anxious our guns now at front should be returned, but have promised General not to move them until they are replaced by Royal Artillery.

Inclosure 5 in No. 5.

Lord Northbrook to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, August 1, 1882, 9.20 A.M.

ASSURE Khedive of determination of Government to send such force as will make resistance of Arabi hopeless.

No. 6.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1.)

(No. 374.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 1, 1882, 7.30 A.M.

COLVIN thanks for leave, and will start next Friday.

No. 7.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1, 12.15 P.M.)

(No. 375.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 1, 1882, noon.

IN the Proclamation of the Ministry against Arabi, telegraphed to the "Times" yesterday, prominent allusion is made to a Turkish occupation, as if with wish to emphasize Sultan's authority in Egypt. It has been for some time in preparation, but has only been issued when Turkish intervention seemed to be decided upon.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 8.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 1.)

(No. 508. Confidential. Ext. 375.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 1, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the Proclamation issued by the Egyptian Ministry against Arabi Pasha.

The prominence which is given to the prospect of a Turkish occupation appears to indicate a wish to emphasize the importance of the Sultan's authority.

I informed your Lordship on the 25th ultimo that the Proclamation was in course of preparation, and it seems to have been delayed until the dispatch of Turkish troops was announced as definitively settled.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure in No. 8.

*Extract from the "Egyptian Gazette" of July 31, 1882.**Circulaire du Conseil des Ministres.*

(Traduction.)

VERSETS DU CORAN.—"Tous ceux qui combattent contre Dieu et son Prophète et sèment la discorde seront punis de mort, ou mis en croix, ou ils auront les mains et les pieds coupés, ou ils seront bannis; ces peines leur seront infligées pour leur honte sur la terre et ils subiront après cette vie un supplice éternel."

"Fidèles croyants, soumettez-vous aux ordres de Dieu, à ceux de son Prophète et de ceux qui vous gouvernent."

PAROLES SAINTES.—"Celui qui m'obéit, obéit à Dieu; celui qui obéit au Chef des Croyants m'obéit; celui qui me désobéit, désobéit à Dieu; celui qui désobéit au Chef des Croyants, me désobéit."

Le Conseil a jugé nécessaire, à la suite des actes commis par Arabi Pacha, de les faire connaître et d'indiquer, par déclarations publiques, quelles peuvent être les conséquences de l'état de choses créé par ces actes.

Tous les agissements d'Ahmed Arabi Pacha sont de notoriété publique, ainsi que les mesures adoptées par Son Altesse le Khédive, soit pour le ménager, soit pour le blâmer et l'amener à renoncer à ses intentions.

Ainsi, pour faire disparaître les craintes qu'il éprouvait, son Excellence Ragheb Pacha avait obtenu de Son Altesse une amnistie générale pour tous ceux qui se trouvaient responsables pour s'être mêlés aux événements survenus jusqu'à la date du programme soumis à Son Altesse par le Président du Conseil; tout cela est malheureusement resté infructueux.

Cependant, attendu qu'après cette date Ahmed Arabi Pacha s'est rendu coupable des actes suivants: sa retraite à Kafr-el-Dawar en entraînant les troupes avec lui; l'abandon, sans ordre, des forts et de la ville d'Alexandrie; l'interruption des services des

chemins de fer et des correspondances postales et télégraphiques; l'arrêt des eaux du Canal Mahmoudieh à Alexandrie dans le but de causer un grave dommage à la résidence de Son Altesse, des Ministres et de tous les habitants; les entraves mises à la rentrée dans leurs foyers de tous les émigrés d'Alexandrie; le refus de se rendre dans cette ville sur l'ordre de Son Altesse; la publication de Proclamations dans lesquelles il était faussement allégué que Son Altesse le Khédive avait livré la ville aux troupes Anglaises et gardé les Ministres prisonniers; la destitution et la nomination arbitraire de plusieurs Moudirs; tous ces actes devant être considérés comme autant d'actes de rébellion envers Son Altesse le Khédive, représentant le Chef des Croyants, la destitution d'Ahmed Arabi Pacha a été prononcée par ordre supérieur.

Attendu aussi que son Excellence Dervisch Pacha avait déclaré, en présence de Son Altesse et du Conseil des Ministres, qu'il avait été informé par l'Amiral Beauchamp Seymour que le Gouvernement Anglais ne nourrissait aucun sentiment d'hostilité envers la Sublime Porte ou le Gouvernement Égyptien; que le bombardement et la destruction des forts n'ont eu lieu qu'à la suite de menaces faites contre la flotte Anglaise par des travaux de fortifications exécutés sur l'ordre d'Ahmed Arabi Pacha et malgré les ordres contraires émanés de Sa Majesté le Sultan; que l'Amiral a déclaré qu'il avait obtenu satisfaction suffisante; que si le Gouvernement du Khédive avait des troupes fidèles et obéissantes il était prêt à remettre la ville d'Alexandrie et les forts, et que quelques postes ont déjà été, en effet, confiés à la garde des soldats Égyptiens qui ont fait leur soumission; que des troupes envoyées par la Sublime Porte viendraient prochainement occuper toute la ville d'Alexandrie; qu'en outre, l'Amiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour a déclaré, dans sa communication à Son Altesse, en date du 26 Juillet, qu'il n'entre pas dans les intentions du Gouvernement Britannique de prendre possession de l'Égypte ni de porter atteinte à la religion ou aux libertés de ses habitants, mais seulement de protéger Son Altesse le Khédive et les Égyptiens contre les rebelles qu'il veut réduire pour rétablir l'ordre dans le pays.

De tout ce qui précède, il ressort que Son Altesse le Khédive n'a point livré ni eu l'intention de livrer la ville d'Alexandrie aux Anglais, de même que le Gouvernement Anglais n'a jamais eu l'intention de prendre, même partiellement, possession du pays; que Son Altesse le Khédive ne nous a jamais retenus prisonniers et, bien au contraire, elle n'a cessé de penser, dans sa sollicitude, au maintien de l'ordre, au bien-être des habitants et à la prospérité du pays.

De plus, les agissements d'Arabi Pacha, les préparatifs militaires sur les divers points qu'il a choisis, doivent être considérés comme des menaces envers toutes les Puissances, menaces qui peuvent causer, comme à Alexandrie, de graves dommages au pays.

D'après les nouvelles qui nous sont parvenues, la Conférence de Constantinople aurait décidé le maintien des droits de la Sublime Porte et des privilèges de l'Égypte et la répression de la rébellion. La Sublime Porte aurait, de son côté, accepté d'expédier, dans ce but, des troupes, en dehors de celles de l'Angleterre, de la France, et de l'Italie.

Les idées faussement répandues par Arabi Pacha et ceux qui lui prêtent leurs concours, les préparatifs militaires faits pour résister aux Grandes Puissances ne peuvent donc avoir pour résultat que de faire verser le sang des Égyptiens et de causer la ruine du pays.

Or, tous ceux qui désobéissent à Dieu, au Prophète, et à leurs Gouvernants et sèment la discorde, la veulent ou la soutiennent, doivent subir les peines prononcées dans les versets ci-dessus du Coran et des Livres Saints.

Nous conseillons donc, à tous ceux de nos frères qui conservent la foi dans leur cœurs, la crainte de Dieu pour la patrie et pour eux-mêmes.

No. 9.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1, 4:30 P.M.)

(No. 283.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 1, 1882, 12:15 P.M.

I WENT to the Porte yesterday to ascertain the effect of our communications as contained in your Lordship's telegrams Nos. 444 and 455. On the whole, I was satisfied with the tone adopted by the Ministers. At first the Prime Minister suggested the countermanding of our troops. I told him that it was useless for him to base any of his calculations on the supposition either that our troops would be countermanded

or that the British corps d'armée would leave Egypt until order had been completely re-established. He then expressed a hope that at least Her Majesty's Government would endeavour to spare the Sultan's susceptibilities as much as possible. With reference to the Proclamation, he said that the Porte did not think it would be advisable to issue it until after the troops were landed. I told him in reply—not, however, as having been instructed to do so, but as the expression of my own opinion—that, if the Proclamation was not previously issued, no Turkish troops would be allowed to land in Egypt. If the Sultan desired to co-operate with us, it was necessary that he should first clearly define the attitude he intended to assume towards Arabi and the rebel faction. His Highness then promised that such a Proclamation as we desired should be officially communicated to the Embassy before the troops started, and should be issued before they landed. He would be glad to know whether this arrangement would satisfy your Lordship, but he could only submit the proposition to me officiously, as he should have to refer the point to the Sultan for his assent.

My conversation with Saïd Pasha was pretty much to the same effect. His Excellency seemed to acquiesce quite contentedly in the idea of our joint action in Egypt. He said that he supposed that the relationship of the English and Turkish troops would have to be settled by a Convention, and that their movements would be superintended by a British and a Turkish Commissioner. He asked me whether the English Government would undertake that, order having been re-established, the English troops would evacuate the country at the same time as the Turkish.

If only we had to deal with the Porte, the Egyptian question would be readily settled, for both the Saïd Pashas are convinced that their best policy is to act in friendly concert with us; but, unfortunately, the ultimate event does not depend upon the Porte.

No. 10.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 1.)

(No. 689. Confidential. Ext. 283.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 1, 1882.

I WENT to the Sublime Porte yesterday to ascertain the effect of our communications contained in your Lordship's telegrams Nos. 444 of the 28th and 455 of the 29th ultimo, as reported in my despatches Nos. 279 and 281 of the 31st ultimo respecting the co-operation of English and Ottoman troops, and the decision of the Cabinet.

On the whole, I was satisfied with the tone adopted by the Ministers.

At first the Prime Minister suggested the countermanding of our troops. I told him that it was useless for him to base any of his calculations on the supposition either that our troops would be countermanded, or that the British corps d'armée would leave Egypt until order had been completely re-established.

His Highness then expressed a hope that at least Her Majesty's Government would endeavour to spare the Sultan's susceptibilities as much as possible. With reference to the Proclamation, he said that the Sublime Porte did not think it would be advisable to issue it until after the troops were landed.

I told him, in reply, not, however, as having been instructed to do so, but as the expression of my own opinion, that if the Proclamation was not previously issued, no Turkish troops would be allowed to land in Egypt. If the Sultan desired to co-operate with us, it was necessary he should first clearly define the attitude he intended to assume towards Arabi and the rebellious faction. His Highness then promised that such a Proclamation as we desired should be officially communicated to the Embassy before the troops started, and should be issued before they landed. He would be glad to know whether this arrangement would satisfy your Lordship, but he could only submit the proposition to me officiously, as he should have to refer the point to the Sultan for his assent.

My conversation with Saïd Pasha, the Foreign Minister, was pretty much to the same effect. His Excellency seemed to acquiesce quite contentedly in the idea of our joint action in Egypt. He said that he supposed that the relationship of the English and Turkish troops would have to be regulated by a Convention, and that their movements would be superintended by a British and a Turkish Commissioner. He asked me whether the British Government would undertake that, order having been re-established, the English troops would evacuate the country at the same time as the Turkish.

If only we had to deal with the Porte the Egyptian question would be readily settled, for both the Saïds are convinced that their best policy is to act in friendly concert with us; but, unfortunately, the ultimate event does not depend upon the Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 11.

Earl Granville to Mr. Egerton.

(No. 16.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 1, 1882, 6 P.M.

GOVERNOR of Malta reports that sixty destitute Greek refugees from Alexandria are being relieved by the Government of the island, and that Greek Consul refuses to support them. Urge Greek Government to instruct their Consuls to undertake relief, and to refund amount already expended by Island Government.

No. 12.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

E
(No. 446.)
My Lord.

Foreign Office, August 1, 1882.

THE Turkish Ambassador called upon me this afternoon and gave me a telegram, of which I inclose a copy, stating the reasons of the Porte for considering that it would be undesirable to issue a Proclamation against Arabi Pasha until the arrival of the Turkish troops in Egypt.*

I told his Excellency that I had laid before my colleagues the communications from the Porte which he had brought to me on the 29th and 30th ultimo, and that I was commissioned to inform him, in reply, that Her Majesty's Government could not consent to withdraw the British troops from Egypt, nor to relax the measures which they were taking for the protection of British interests and for the restoration of the Khedive's authority and of order in Egypt; nor could Her Majesty's Government agree to the condition laid down in the Appendix to the Turkish Declaration that the military reforms to be introduced in Egypt should be settled by an agreement between the Porte and the Khedive, to the exclusion of the Powers.

I added that we considered the immediate issue of the Proclamation asked for by ourselves and the Representatives of the other Powers as essential, and we thought that the arrangement of English and Turkish intervention in Egypt should be made the subject of a Military Convention.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 13.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

E
(No. 447. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 1, 1882.

I CONTINUED the conversation with Musurus Pasha, recorded in my immediately preceding despatch of this day's date, with some remarks in reply to his personal observations to me, related in my despatch to your Excellency No. 443, Confidential, of the 30th ultimo.

I said that I thought it much to be regretted that the Sultan had not taken his advice some weeks ago, when His Majesty might have undertaken by himself the sole intervention in Egypt. His Majesty had still the opportunity of co-operating with us, if he at once issued a Proclamation such as had been asked and agreed to a Military Convention on satisfactory terms; but I added that these opportunities rapidly pass away.

Musurus Pasha said that he would advise his Government to communicate to us the

draft of a Proclamation to be issued as soon as the Turkish troops set foot in Egypt, and to proceed at once with the negotiation of a Military Convention.

I told him that when quoting me he must adhere to what I had stated to him.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 14.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

E
(No. 260A. Confidential.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, August 1, 1882.

M. CRISPI, who has been in England for a short visit, called upon me this afternoon.

He spoke to me of the desire of the Italian Government to act in co-operation with us in the Egyptian question, and said that he believed that it was in the interest of Italy to do so.

I told him, confidentially, of the proposals we had made to the Italian Government, and of the answers which we had received.

M. Crispi said that there were Parliamentary difficulties for the Italian Government, and that it was necessary for them to consider both the amount of assistance that might be required from them in troops and money, and also the results that would accrue to Italy in the eventual settlement of affairs in Egypt.

I said that we had been glad to make the offer we had done, both for the value of the assistance and as evidence of our friendly feeling towards Italy. But that we believed that the preparations we were making were sufficient by themselves to secure the object in view, and, to speak plainly, we thought that it was not for us to make fresh proposals; that we could not go on our knees for help, and bargain for conditions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 15.

Earl Granville to Mr. Stuart.

(No. 64. Extender.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, August 1, 1882.

UPON the receipt of your telegram of yesterday I authorized you, by telegraph, to give a categorical denial to the report, to which your attention has been called by the Representative of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, of the existence of an arrangement between this country and Germany under which the latter assents to British intervention in Egypt in return for a declaration that England will not oppose the annexation of Luxembourg to Germany.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 16.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 467.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 1, 1882, 6:50 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 278 of yesterday.
Ask Blunt how long preparation for dispatch of troops to Egypt will take.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1, 7.40 P.M.)

(No. 80.)

(Telegraphic.)

Vienna, August 1, 1882, 4.30 P.M.

THE Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs is prepared to support a proposal to be made to the Conference, I believe by the Italian Ambassador, intimating to all maritime countries that they might co-operate in securing the Suez Canal.

No. 18.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 1.)

(No. 388. Ext. 80.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 1, 1882,

I GATHER from Count Kálnoky that he is prepared to support a proposal to be made to the Conference, as I understand by the Italian Ambassador, under which the security of the Suez Canal would be provided for by an intimation to all maritime countries that they might co-operate in the measures to be adopted for its protection.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 19.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1, 7.45 P.M.)

(No. 81.)

(Telegraphic.)

Vienna, August 1, 1882, 5 P.M.

THE Minister for Foreign Affairs thinks that it will be impossible for the Conference to speak of the Turkish force co-operating with that of Her Majesty, as it would be in contradiction to the note in which it invited the Sultan to send his troops as the Sovereign of Egypt.

No. 20.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 1.)

(No. 390. Ext. 81.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 1, 1882.

IN a conversation which I had to-day with Count Kálnoky, his Excellency observed that he did not think that it would be possible for the Conference to speak of the Turkish force being sent to Egypt to co-operate with that of Her Majesty's, as the invitation made by the Conference to the Sultan was that he should, as Sovereign of Egypt, send his troops to restore order there.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 21.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1, 7.45 P.M.)

(No. 82.)

(Telegraphic.)

Vienna, August 1, 1882, 5.10 P.M.

THE Turkish Ambassador this morning made a communication to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in answer to the proposal that the Sultan should proclaim Arabi a rebel, stating that this could not properly be done before the Turkish force reached Egypt.

The Minister entirely dissented from this view, and asked the Ambassador strongly to urge the Porte, in its own interest, to come to an understanding with Her Majesty's Government, and to make an arrangement with them respecting the employment of the respective forces.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 1.)

(No. 392. Ext. 82.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 1, 1882.

THIS morning the Turkish Ambassador communicated to Count Kálnoky a telegram from the Porte in answer to the proposal that the Sultan should proclaim Arabi Pasha a rebel, and stating the objections to this being done before the Turkish force had reached Egypt.

Count Kálnoky expressed his entire dissent from the arguments of the Turkish Government, and he begged Edhem Pasha strongly to urge them in the interest of the Sultan to come to an understanding with Her Majesty's Government, and at once to come to an arrangement with them respecting the employment of the respective forces in carrying out their common object in Egypt.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 23.

Lord Amthill to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1, 10.30 P.M.)

(No. 75.)

(Telegraphic.)

Berlin, August 1, 1882, 4.50 P.M.

COUNT HATZFELDT has complained to me to-day that he is not allowed to send to, or receive from, the German Representative at Alexandria cyphered telegrams; that he has therefore been compelled to forward instructions *en clair*, and that on two occasions they have appeared in the Reuter series. I expressed my regret that this should have been the case, and said that, in consequence of recent events, it would not be surprising if there were some shortcomings in the telegraph system; but I promised his Excellency to submit his complaint to your Lordship, and added that if the English authorities had control over the telegraph administration at Alexandria, I felt sure that they would endeavour to remedy matters in the sense he desired.

Count Hatzfeldt could understand that, under existing circumstances, the public might not be permitted to transmit or receive cyphered messages, but he felt that this prohibition should hardly be applied to the Government of a friendly Power.

I venture to hope that something may be done to prevent a repetition of his Excellency's complaint.

No. 24.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 1.)

(No. 303. Ext. 75.)

My Lord,

Berlin, August 1, 1882.

COUNT HATZFELDT asked me to call upon him this afternoon, and on my doing so his Excellency complained that, in communicating with the German Consul-General at Alexandria by telegraph, he was no longer able to send or receive cyphered messages. He was compelled, therefore, to correspond with Baron de Saurma *en clair*, and on two recent occasions his telegraphic instruction had been reproduced in the Reuter series.

I said that I regretted his Excellency should have been put to any inconvenience, and added that if there were any shortcomings in the telegraphic arrangements at Alexandria, they were doubtlessly attributable to recent occurrences. I felt sure, however, that if the telegraph Administration was under the control of the English authorities, they would do their utmost to remedy, as far as might be possible, any difficulty which might have arisen, and I promised his Excellency to bring his complaint to your Lordship's notice.

It would, Count Hatzfeldt remarked, be quite conceivable that, in view of the actual situation at Alexandria, the public generally should not be permitted to telegraph in cypher, but he could not help feeling that this prohibition should scarcely be made extensive to the correspondence passing between the Government of a friendly Power and its Representative.

May I venture to express a hope that it will not be found impossible to meet Count Hatzfeldt's wishes in this matter?

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 25.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1, 10:30 P.M.)

(No. 91. Most Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.)

Rome, August 1, 1882, 9 P.M.

I HAVE had a private and confidential conversation with the President of the Council, Signor Depretis, to-day. He is much preoccupied over the instability of things in France, and, in the uncertainty as to what the future may bring forth, he thinks that it would be more than ever necessary for Italy to have the formal sanction or mandate of Europe before joining England in intervention. He is strongly convinced, however, that the Turks have so much interest in acting loyally that they will give the required proofs of good faith, which would relieve the Italian Government from having to take a decision as to their own intervention.

No. 26.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1, 11 P.M.)

(No. 284.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 1, 1882, 8:30 P.M.

YOUR telegrams Nos. 462 and 463.

I have communicated to the Porte the exact substance of the foregoing telegrams received this afternoon, though I had in some degree anticipated their spirit in my verbal communications to the Ministers yesterday.

No. 27.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 1.)

(No. 690. Confidential. Ext. 284.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 1, 1882.

I HAVE communicated to the Sublime Porte the exact substance of your Lordship's telegrams Nos. 462 and 463 of the 31st ultimo, received this afternoon, with reference to Anglo-Turkish intervention in Egypt, and the decision of the Cabinet on the subject. I had in some degree anticipated their spirit in my verbal communication to the Ministers yesterday, as reported in my despatch No. 689, Confidential, of to-day's date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 28.

Mr. Egerton to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2.)

(No. 120.)

My Lord,

Athens, July 27, 1882.

THOUGH it is not fitting to cumber the archives of your Lordship's Office with extracts from, or to attach much weight, either here or elsewhere, to the opinions of daily papers ("Ephemerides" is their Greek name), I should mention that there is unanimity of opinion in the Athens press in approval of the energetic action of Her Majesty's Government in Egypt.

Even the organ of the opposition breaks out as follows: "Honour and glory to the noble English nation which alone assumes the task of sending its children to punish the Egyptian assassins, whilst other Powers either passively or timidly look on or insidiously intrigue behind the scenes."

With regard to Egypt, M. Tricoupi told me yesterday that he still continues to discourage the return there of the Greek fugitives.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

No. 29.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2.)

(No. 318.)

My Lord,

Rome, July 30, 1882.

I HAD the honour to receive, at 6 o'clock yesterday evening, your Lordship's telegram No. 281, repeating the text of your Lordship's telegram No. 444 to Lord Dufferin relative to a declaration to be made by his Excellency to the Conference; and I immediately sent a copy of it to the Minister for Foreign Affairs; and in an interview which I have had with his Excellency to-day I acquainted him with the substance of your Lordship's telegram No. 455 to Lord Dufferin, replying to the Porte's proposal that Her Majesty's troops should be withdrawn from Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 30.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2.)

(No. 301.)

My Lord,

Berlin, July 31, 1882.

IN accordance with your Lordship's telegraphic instruction of the 29th, I expressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, with a request that it might be conveyed to Prince Bismarck, the satisfaction felt by Her Majesty's Government on learning from the German Chargé d'Affaires that the Commander of the Imperial gun-boat "Möve" had been directed to take part in the patrol of the Suez Canal.

Count Hatzfeldt said that this step had been taken on the suggestion of Her Majesty's Government that vessels passing through the Canal should, under existing circumstances, be escorted by gun-boats of their respective nationalities.

Upon my submitting to his Excellency whether it might not be advisable for the Commander of the "Möve" to place himself in communication with our Admiral at Port Saïd, he asked me what this meant. I replied that I could place but one interpretation on the words, namely, that as the Commander of the Imperial gun-boat would be engaged on a particular service in the Canal, circumstances might easily arise which would render it advantageous, or even necessary, for him to apply for advice or assistance, in which case I felt sure the British Admiral would gladly do all in his power to give one or the other. This might be the more easily accomplished if the two officers were already in communication.

As regards the question of Canal dues, I informed Count Hatzfeldt that, from what was stated in your Lordship's telegram, I believed gun-boats, although engaged on particular service in the Canal, would not be exempted from the payment of the charges. His Excellency said he had made the inquiry through the German Chargé d'Affaires, as the Imperial Admiralty had applied to him for information on the subject.

Without making any formal complaint, Count Hatzfeldt, I think, seemed to be of opinion that gun-boats which, by patrolling the Canal at the present time, were evidently rendering a very direct service in preventing, as far as possible, any falling off in the receipts from vessels paying toll, should hardly perhaps themselves be required to pay dues as if they were using the passage of the Canal on their own account.

I agreed with his Excellency that it did seem somewhat unfair to impose the dues in this special instance. Possibly, I added, there might have been an error or omission in the telegram I had received, and I would therefore make further inquiry on the subject.

Might I venture to ask your Lordship kindly to let me know whether there would be any probability of the gun-boats now engaged on special service being exempted from payment of tolls.

Count Hatzfeldt begged me to assure your Lordship that the Commander of the "Möve" would be instructed to place himself in communication with Admiral Hoskins.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 31.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2.)

(No. 844.)

My Lord,

Paris, July 31, 1882.

I HAD yesterday the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch No. 864 A of the 20th instant, directing me to make a representation to the French Government on the subject of a private letter from the French Admiral to Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour in which the expression "neutral character" is applied to the Suez Canal.

I inclose a copy of a note which I have in consequence addressed to M. de Freycinet.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 31.

Viscount Lyons to M. de Freycinet.

M. le Président du Conseil,

Paris, July 31, 1882.

ADMIRAL SIR B. SEYMOUR has reported to Her Majesty's Government that in a courteously worded private letter which he has received from the French Admiral it is stated that the happy result of the course pursued by England is that the Suez Canal preserves the "neutral character" which it is so desirable in the interests of the world it should maintain.

Her Majesty's Government have directed me to express to your Excellency their satisfaction at the friendly tone of the communication of the French Admiral, and at the same time to state that they presume that the expression "neutral character" was not at all meant by him to imply that the Canal had ever been neutralized.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 32.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2.)

(No. 853. Secret.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 1, 1882.

AT the moment I am writing the French Ministers are holding office only until their successors are appointed, and the greatest uncertainty prevails as to who their successors will be.

In the meantime, the rejection of the Suez Canal Credits Bill and the fall of the Freycinet Cabinet have produced for the moment a state of public feeling not at all unfavourable to a good understanding between France and England.

Prince Bismarck's telegram of the 27th contributed not a little to increase the majority against the Government. Very few of the Members had seen it, but it was generally taken (and, indeed, it is still generally taken) as a threat to France, and it is consequently treated as a warning to her to keep every soldier she can at home.

It has produced among Frenchmen in general a feeling of mingled apprehension and irritation as regards Germany, and a desire to be rid of the Constantinople Conference and of the whole Egyptian question, and to concentrate all their energies upon strengthening their means of defence at home.

With regard to England, the feeling seems to be that she has invited the co-operation of France in a perfectly loyal manner; that as circumstances have made it impossible for France to join her in active measures, the least the French can do is to leave her to take her own course without any objection or hindrance from them.

In fact, at this moment England may look for acquiescence, and even for sympathy, from France in regard to the expedition to Egypt, and it appears to be not a little important that she should be able to do so, for the French fleet seems to be the only force in Europe which could embarrass us; so long as we are sure that the French fleet will be on our side, or will observe a friendly neutrality, we need not take into account the forces of other Powers. We do not stand in need of active naval or military aid from France in dealing with Egypt, and it may in many respects suit us better to act by

ourselves. But no little inconvenience might arise if France united with the other Powers, although only in moral opposition to us.

Nor must the present good-will towards us be too much relied upon as a security against this. If the beginning of our operations in Egypt be delayed, or if they be not speedily brought to a successful issue, jealousy may revive, assurances and pledges may be demanded of us, and the influence of other nations be brought into play.

The arrival of a Turkish force in Egypt under our auspices would put French friendliness towards us to a very severe test, and it must not be forgotten that the Conference at Constantinople is a constant source of danger. The French dread being isolated from all the Powers of the Continent. They cannot feel confident that England would be able to secure them from the consequences of setting themselves in opposition to Continental Europe, and they have an instinctive fear of being attacked by Germany which goes far beyond the bounds of reasonable apprehension. Many a French Minister would be tempted to avoid responsibility at home and abroad by acquiescing in a decision given unanimously by the four Continental Powers in the Conference, and even by taking part in the execution of such a decision.

The occurrences which would most contribute to the maintenance of good relations between the two countries would, as it seems to me, be prompt action and prompt success on the part of England in Egypt, the avoidance of Turkish intervention, and the speedy dissolution of the Conference of Constantinople.

Your Lordship will remember that I write without knowing in whose hands the Government of France will be a day or two hence; but in any case it appears to me that good as is the feeling here at this moment, there is a need, even greater than usual, of careful consideration for French national sentiments and even susceptibilities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 33.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2.)

(No. 15. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Paris, July 31, 1882.

WE have the honour to forward herewith to your Lordship a copy of a telegram which has been received from M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, dated the 29th instant, in which he protests against the violation of the neutrality of the Suez Canal by the landing of an armed force at Ismailia.

M. Charles de Lesseps, when handing to us this telegram, spoke of the position taken up by his father on the subject of the neutrality of the Canal, and laid great stress on the possible consequences to Great Britain of taking any steps that would constitute an infringement of that neutrality.

He defined the neutrality which the Suez Canal Company has obtained in their Concession from the Sultan to be the right for all ships, whether of commerce or war, to traverse the Canal freely at all times, without committing acts of war within its waters or on its borders. He insisted on the fact that this neutrality was respected during the Franco-German war and again during the Russo-Turkish war—that vessels under hostile flags met in the Canal during these wars and did not exchange shots.

He urged that a departure from this course at the present time would create a precedent for the future which Great Britain might have to deplore; that in any future complication a hostile Power in possession of either bank of the Canal might interrupt the passage of English ships, which, if the principle of neutrality were once thoroughly established by the respect shown to it by all Powers, would pass through unharmed.

He did not contend that the Canal should not be used as a highway for troop-ships and ships of war, even during war, but that it could only be used as such, and not as a field of battle or basis of military operations.

He pointed out the fact that Arabi Pasha has hitherto respected the neutrality of the Canal, and maintained that he will continue to do so as long as the Canal is not made use of by any hostile Power for the furtherance of its designs.

He urged that this was a great point gained, and strongly deprecated any use being made of the Canal which could convert it into a base of operations.

We remarked to M. Charles de Lesseps that we could not share M. de Lesseps' confidence in Arabi Pasha's intentions to respect the neutrality of the Canal. It has been asserted on apparently good grounds that he intends, as a last resource, to take

measures to injure British trade by blocking the Canal and attacking our vessels in it; and that it would be very unwise to rely upon any promises to the contrary effect that Arabi Pasha might make.

We added that the entrance of Admiral Hoskins' force into the Canal is intended to prevent any such damage—that it is better to take this preventive and precautionary measure than to await the fulfilment of Arabi's plans by some sudden attempt on the Canal.

We concluded by saying that the action thus forced on Her Majesty's Government was not being taken in pursuance of any aggressive designs or in warfare against Egypt; that we are acting for and in behalf of the only legitimate Government in Egypt, that of the Khedive, Tewfik Pasha, against his mutinous army, headed by Arabi and his colleagues; that our object is to re-establish order and lawful authority in Egypt, an object in which it would seem that the Suez Canal Company itself has a paramount interest.

These observations did not induce M. Charles de Lesseps to alter his view as to the danger of ignoring the neutral character of the Canal, which he persisted in maintaining to be of greater importance to England than to any other country.

We have, &c.
(Signed) J. STOKES.
C. RIVERS WILSON.
EDWD. J. STANDEN.

Inclosure in No. 33.

M. F. de Lesseps to M. C. de Lesseps.

(Télégraphique.)

Ismailia, le 29 Juillet, 1882, 8 h. matin.

VOULOIR débarquer à Ismaïlia, où il n'y a pas un seul soldat Égyptien, est une intention de prise de possession de notre Canal.

Se trouvent seulement ici un Chef de Police indigène et quelques agents.

Habitants sont nos employés familles et réfugiés, en tête de notre personnel, les envahisseurs nous trouveront sans armes en face d'eux pour barrer passage avec protestation.

No. 34.

Report by the Law Officers of the Crown and Dr. Deane on the Foreign Office Letters of June 24 and July 13.—(Received August 2.)

(No. 1.)

Lord Tenterden to the Law Officers of the Crown and Dr. Deane.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, June 24, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a letter from Mr. Joseph Richardson, and one from Mr. Robert Dobson, each of them claiming 10,000*l.* from the Egyptian Government on account of the murder of his son during the recent disorders at Alexandria.

Earl Granville informed the Turkish Ambassador on the 17th instant that Her Majesty's Government considered that the Porte, as the sovereign Power, was responsible in ultimate resort for the serious outrages and the loss of English life and property which had resulted from the riots, and that, considering the presence of Dervish Pasha in Egypt at the time as the Sultan's Special Commissioner, Her Majesty's Government must hold the Porte to be bound to see that proper redress was made, and on the same day Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General in Egypt was instructed by telegraph to let it be clearly understood that the British Government would require full reparation and satisfaction for the outrages committed during the recent disorders.

On the 20th instant Lord Granville stated in the House of Lords that, with regard to outrages on British subjects and loss of their lives or property, Her Majesty's Government had not to address other countries, but had a right to judge themselves what satisfaction or reparation they wanted; that Sir E. Malet had been instructed to make

it clearly understood that Her Majesty's Government would require full reparation and satisfaction for the outrages committed during the late disorders at Alexandria; that notice would be given to all British subjects in Egypt to register at the Consulate the claims they might have to put forward, and a similar notice would be given to the relatives of those who had unfortunately been killed.

The instructions which were, as thus stated by Lord Granville, addressed to Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General, were as follows:—

"Her Majesty's Government intend, when the proper moment arrives, to prefer a claim upon the Egyptian Government for damages and losses sustained by British subjects at Alexandria.

"Take such steps as may be necessary to call upon them to register their claims at the British Consulate, giving notice also to relatives of the killed of intention of Her Majesty's Government."

Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople has also been instructed to make an announcement to the Conference of the determination of Her Majesty's Government in this matter.

It is probable that numerous applications of the nature of the inclosed letters from Mr. J. Richardson and Mr. R. Dobson will be addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and his Lordship directs me to state that he proposes to reply to such communications in the terms of the first paragraph of the above-quoted instructions to Sir E. Malet, viz., that "Her Majesty's Government intend, when the proper moment arrives, to prefer a claim upon the Egyptian Government for damages and losses sustained by British subjects at Alexandria during the recent disorders."

His Lordship proposes to insist on payment of money to the relatives of the eight British subjects who were killed and to those who were hurt, and of damages for the destruction of property, also on the execution of the guilty parties, and on a salute to the British flag at Alexandria and Cairo.

Lord Granville is also disposed to demand compensation for loss to those who fled from Egypt to avoid violence; but before taking any further action, his Lordship would be glad to be favoured with your opinion at your earliest convenience as to the terms of the proposed reply to the letters of Mr. Richardson and Mr. Dobson, and also with any observations you may desire to offer generally on this letter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) TENTERDEN.

(No. 2.)

Sir J. Pouncefote to the Law Officers of the Crown and Dr. Deane.

(Confidential.)
Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, July 13, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, by direction of Earl Granville, an Analysis by Lord Tenterden of the papers presented to Parliament respecting Egypt from the 9th September, 1881, to the 31st May, 1882, with a Summary Account of Events from 1840 to 1881; and a Memorandum in continuation of that Analysis, carrying on the narrative of events up to the 30th ultimo. Also the Parliamentary Paper "Egypt No. 1 (1880)," and other documents noted in the accompanying List.*

The above papers are laid before you in connection with the question now under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government as to the extent of the liability incurred by the Egyptian Government towards foreigners for the loss of life and property occasioned by the recent disorders in Egypt.

You are aware that the political status and the order of succession to the Viceregal Throne of Egypt were settled by the Treaty for the Pacification of the Levant between Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Turkey of the 15th July, 1840, and by the Sultan's Firman of the 1st June, 1841.

As observed by Sir Travers Twiss ("Rights and Duties of Nations in Time of Peace," p. 92), "the condition of Egypt may be regarded as the result of an European inter-

* LIST OF PAPERS.—Papers presented to Parliament from September 9, 1881, to May 31, 1882: Analysis by Lord Tenterden (see pp. 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and Summary, p. 27); Memorandum by Lord Tenterden (see pp. 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13); Accounts of Riot by various eye-witnesses; Mr. Cookson's despatch No. 16 of June 20; Sir H. Elliot's despatch No. 310; Memorandum by Sir E. Hertslet as to case of French and German Consuls murdered at Salonica; Law Officers' Reports on indemnity claims.

national compact, as, although it has been in form settled by a Firman or Edict of the Padishah of the Ottomans, that settlement was the result of an agreement between the Porte and four of the Great European Powers, and has received the guarantee of those Powers under the Treaty concluded between them and the Porte."

The privileges secured to Egypt by that arrangement were extended from time to time by various Firmans; and among the most important are the Firman of 1866, which, in consideration of an increase in the tribute payable by Egypt to the Porte, sanctioned a modification in the order of succession to the Viceregal Throne; and that of 1879, under which Tewfik Pasha, the present Khedive, succeeded to power on the abdication of Ismail Pasha.

The last-mentioned Firman, before being issued, was communicated to the British and French Governments, and, after some discussion, received their formal assent. (See "Egypt No. 1, 1880," pp. 1 and 33, 34, 37 and 38, 40-45.)

Under the guarantees afforded by the system of government thus secured for Egypt, the influx of foreigners and of foreign capital has been of late years most extensive. The establishment of the International Tribunals, of the Commission of Liquidation, and of the Control, gave additional security for peace and good order, and the employment of foreigners in the service of the Administrative Departments of the Government inspired public confidence, and insured the proper collection of the revenue.

Large sums have been invested by British subjects in public loans and in private industries, which have contributed largely to the development of the resources of the country.

Such was the general condition of affairs in Egypt when Arabi Bey appeared on the scene as the leader of the Military party. There had been a military disturbance on the 18th February, 1879. Another took place on the 1st February, 1881, when Arabi Bey refused to obey the Minister; and a third, headed by Arabi Bey, on the 9th September, 1881. The objects of the Military party, or so-called National party, under the leadership of Arabi Bey, were the subversion of the existing Constitution and of institutions created under the sanction of international engagements, and the dismissal of foreigners from the public service.

This Military party ultimately gained the ascendancy in the country, and produced a terrorism under which, in February last, the Khedive was compelled to change his Ministry and to appoint Arabi Bey Minister of War, with the title of Pasha. From that date the power passed from the Khedive into the hands of the army.

On the 12th April there was an alleged conspiracy to murder Arabi Pasha, for which a large number of persons were condemned, and the commutation of their sentences by the Khedive led to renewed discussions between His Highness and his Ministry.

In May last a military despotism had become the dominant power in Egypt; and this state of things being destructive of the national prosperity, and antagonistic to the fulfilment of international engagements, as well as menacing to the safety of foreigners, the British and French Governments determined to send a combined fleet to Alexandria; and in a Circular to their Representatives at the Courts of the Great Powers they explained and defined the reasons and objects of that measure. Arabi Pasha, as Minister for War, had been warned by the British and French Agents that if order should be disturbed he would be held personally responsible. On the 14th May he stated, in reply to this warning, that he would guarantee public order and the safety of the Khedive so long as he remained Minister, but that in the event of an Anglo-French squadron arriving he could not give such guarantee; but on the 16th both he and the President of the Council gave assurances to Her Majesty's Agent of the maintenance of public tranquillity on the arrival of the combined squadrons.

On the approach of the fleets, however, Arabi Pasha, against the orders of the Khedive, commenced military preparations.

On the 25th May the British and French Agents presented a joint note to the President of the Council, formally advising the dismissal of the Ministry and the exile of Arabi Pasha and the military leaders of his party. The Khedive having assented to the course proposed, the Ministry resigned; but on the 27th the officers of the regiments and of the police force stationed at Alexandria telegraphed to the Khedive that they would not accept the resignation of Arabi Pasha. Violent discussions ensued, and the Khedive was compelled to yield to the threats of Arabi Pasha, and to reinstate him as Minister of War. Arabi Pasha was sole Minister of the Khedive from that date until the formation of Ragheb Pasha's Ministry on the 16th June. Upon his reinstatement he continued his military preparations, and the military leaders of his party, who had sedulously fostered a fanatical feeling against foreigners, had recourse to the following expedient:—

They circulated among the soldiers and officers of the army a false account of the

purport and terms of the joint note of the British and French Agents of the 25th May, perverting it in a manner calculated to excite the greatest resentment and exasperation against Europeans.

The proceedings of Arabi Pasha as Minister of War, and of the military officers under his command, were therefore such as could hardly fail to bring about the catastrophe which shortly afterwards occurred at Alexandria on the 11th June; and though it may be difficult to prove that the outrages committed on that day against foreigners were secretly prompted by them, it is difficult to resist the inference to be drawn from the surrounding circumstances that such was the case.

On the 28th May Her Majesty's Consul at Alexandria telegraphed as follows: "All quiet here. Local authorities assure me no disorder to be apprehended. Troops have received reply from Cairo, in consequence of which they have engaged to remain quiet at present."

Nevertheless, such was the apprehension of a fanatical outbreak against foreigners, that the Swedish Consul-General, according to a telegram of Sir E. Malet to Mr. Cookson of the 11th June, had come from Alexandria to Cairo for the purpose of submitting to a meeting of the Representatives of the Great Powers a plan for a common defence of Europeans at Alexandria.

It was at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of that day (the 11th June) that the outbreak took place, in which Her Majesty's Consul was seriously injured, and many British subjects and Europeans were killed or wounded by the Arab mob, and European houses and shops were plundered. There is evidence to show that the riot was premeditated, and that the authorities must have had previous knowledge of the intended onslaught on foreigners. Notwithstanding the large military force at Arabi Pasha's command no proper and timely measures were taken for the immediate suppression of the threatened outbreak. The consequence was that no soldiers appeared on the scene until 7 o'clock in the evening, when the mischief had been done.

During the whole afternoon the foreigners had been abandoned to the fury of the mob, for the police force (whose officers, it should be remembered, had joined in the telegram to the Khedive of the 27th May demanding the restoration of Arabi Bey to power) displayed the most scandalous disregard of their duty, and did not interfere to protect the Europeans.

I am to inclose a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Alexandria, containing his Report of the riot, and a printed Memorandum containing various accounts of it from other eye-witnesses.

Instructions have been sent by telegram to the Governor of Malta and Her Majesty's High Commissioner for Cyprus to collect all the evidence on the subject which can be obtained from the foreign residents of Alexandria who have sought refuge in those islands.

Lord Granville is unable to concur in the view expressed by M. de Freycinet on the 12th June, that the events of the previous day arose out of a mere local riot, and agrees with Lord Lyons in the opinion that nothing of the kind would have occurred but for the military revolt and the animosity excited by its leaders against the foreign community.

The inclosed despatch from Sir H. Elliot (No. 310) shows the length of time during which disorder was allowed to prevail unchecked.

The Parliamentary Papers, and the evidence already collected, appear to establish the following conclusions of fact:—

1. That an attempt was made by Arabi Pasha, first as a military officer, and subsequently as a Minister of State, with the assistance of certain military leaders, to subvert the Constitution and the institutions of the country as established by international compact with the Sultan of Turkey and the Khedives of Egypt.
2. That Arabi Pasha, in his capacity of Minister of State, and through the instrumentality of the military leaders of his party being all Government officials, succeeded, by disseminating false reports, and by other means, in exciting and fostering among the army and among the people a fanatical hatred of foreigners.
3. That Arabi Pasha, though warned that he would be held responsible, as a Minister of State, for a breach of the public tranquillity consequent on his revolutionary proceedings and the inflammatory utterances of his party, altogether failed to take proper measures for the immediate suppression of the threatened outbreak and the protection of the lives and property of foreigners, though he had ample means at his command for doing so.
4. That the police force of Alexandria was not only an insufficient protection for foreigners under the circumstances, but, being animated by feelings of hatred to the foreigner, excited among them by the machinations of Arabi Pasha and his party, and

having joined in the demand on the Khedive for the restoration of Arabi Pasha to power, refused to do their duty on the occasion of the outbreak, and made no attempt to protect foreigners against the violence of the mob.

5. No complaint can be made against Tewfik Pasha of any connivance in the anti-foreign movement which led to the outbreak; but his authority as Chief of the State was completely paralyzed, and was merely nominal, the real government of the country having passed into the hands of Arabi Pasha, whose acts as a public Minister of State he was unable to control.

As regards the doctrine of international law applicable to claims of indemnity for losses and injuries sustained by foreigners in times of civil war, tumult, and revolt, I am to draw attention to the observations at pp. 413-424, vol. i, of Calvo's "International Law;" and I am to inclose a Memorandum by Sir E. Hertslet on the case of the murder of the French and German Consuls at Salonica in 1876, and various Reports of the Law Officers of the Crown on claims arising out of revolutionary outbreaks.

Lord Granville desires to be favoured with your opinion whether, in view of the particular facts of the present case, Her Majesty's Government are entitled, consistently with the principles of international law, to demand of the Egyptian Government compensation for the losses and injuries sustained by British subjects by the recent events in Egypt, and especially for the outrages committed on Her Majesty's Consul; and, if so, whether the liability of the Egyptian Government is limited to an indemnity for the injuries and losses directly occasioned to British subjects by the outbreak of the 11th June, or extends to indirect losses occasioned by the panic created by the revolutionary action of Arabi Pasha, resulting in the flight of British subjects, the abandonment of their property, and the ruin of their trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

Report by the Law Officers of the Crown and Dr. Deane on the above References.

In obedience to your Lordship's commands we have the honour to report—

That the general principle in cases like the one before us is that all States are bound to give reasonable protection to the persons and property of strangers resident within their territory, and are answerable to the parent State of those residents if that obligation be broken.

This principle is stated by Kent in his "Commentaries," in these words:—"That when foreigners are admitted into a State upon free and liberal terms, the public faith is pledged for their protection."

The measure of the protection to be afforded is, in our opinion, that which a Government, using all reasonable means, and exercising all reasonable diligence for the prevention and repression of outrage or violence to persons or property, is capable of affording.

If such means have been used and such diligence exercised, and, in spite of it, injury has been sustained by foreigners resident in a country, the Government of that country could not, in our opinion, properly be called upon to make compensation. Whether the injury in any particular case is due to the Government having failed to discharge its duties is a question of fact to be determined by the circumstance of that case.

We have not yet before us in a complete form all the facts relating to the outrages which occasioned the deaths of Mr. Richardson and Mr. Dobson; but, so far as we can judge, there was a failure to discharge the duties incumbent upon the Government of Egypt, which led to these disastrous consequences, and which would justify a claim for compensation.

We do not think that Her Majesty's Government could properly put forward a claim for compensation to those who have sustained damage owing to their voluntary abandonment of the country, though such abandonment was caused by the fear not unnaturally engendered by the occurrences of the 11th June.

We have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY JAMES.
FARRER HERSCHELL.

I agree with the general principle; but I believe, from all that appears to have happened before and since the massacre, that Alexandria was held by a military force

which was in opposition to, and had *de facto* overpowered and was in rebellion against, the *de jure* Government.

I cannot therefore agree that any claim for compensation can properly be made.
(Signed) J. PARKER DEANE.

Temple, August 2, 1882.

No. 35.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2, 1:50 P.M.)

(No. 173.)
(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 2, 1882, 11:20 A.M.

IT is believed to be nearly settled that a non-political Ministry, merely to carry on ordinary business until the Chambers reassemble in October, will be formed under M. Dauphin, a Senator not much known, with Baron Courcel as Minister for Foreign Affairs; and that their foreign policy will be one of entire non-intervention.

No. 36.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2, 2:20 P.M.)

(No. 377.)
(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 2, 1882, noon.

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 387 of the 31st ultimo.

I presume telegram refers to Sir E. Malet's instructions. After the Circular issued by the Ministers, it may be undesirable to dismiss them at once, but Sir E. Malet's arrival should be the moment for a new departure.

With regard to terms of surrender, Sir E. Malet might bring instructions in case Ragheb Pasha should make some proposal, as mentioned in my telegram No. 358. He should also have an answer ready for unauthorized persons who undertake to negotiate. They are generally working for their own interests, or to gain a pretext for communications with Arabi's camp and Cairo.

No. 37.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2, 3:45 P.M.)

(No. 378.)
(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 2, 1882, 3 P.M.

THE Khedive has requested Sir A. Colvin to remain till Sir E. Malet arrives. He leaves, therefore, next week. Please inform his brother-in-law at India Office.

No. 38.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 474. Secret.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 2, 1882, 5:30 P.M.

IS there any chance of the Turks moving forces without understanding with us? Have they the money? What immediate pressure could we put upon them?

No. 39.

Earl Granville to Mr. Cartwright.

(No. 394.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 2, 1882, 6:5 P.M.

WITH reference to Lord Ampthill's telegram No. 75 of yesterday respecting cypher telegrams to and from foreign Agents, report how the matter stands.

No. 40.

Earl Granville to Mr. Cartwright.

(No. 257. Ext. 394.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 2, 1882.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a telegram from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Berlin respecting a complaint made to him by the German Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that he is unable to send to or receive from the German Representative at Alexandria telegraphic messages in cypher.*

You will inquire and report to me at once as to this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 41.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 2.)

THE Secretary of the Admiralty presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State, copies of telegrams dated the 1st August from Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett at Suez, and reply thereto respecting circumstances under which an occupation of Suez would be permissible.

Admiralty, August 2, 1882.

Inclosure 1 in No. 41.

Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.)

Suez, August 1, 1882, 1.2 P.M.

YOUR telegram of 1st August received.

Governor of Suez having declared loyalty to Khedive is removed to Cairo.

No telegraphic communication free to Ismaïlia, Port Said, or Alexandria.

Urge to be allowed to act independently, and occupy Suez as I may deem expedient.

If this is not done there will be no rolling-stock for troops when they arrive. Trains are moving everything away possible.

Inclosure 2 in No. 41.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett.

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, August 1, 1882, 9.30 P.M.

YOUR telegram of 1st August received.

Act on your discretion regarding occupation of Suez if necessary to save rolling-stock or other useful property, though we would prefer postponing action, as it is desired to maintain the *status quo* on the Canal until British Government can communicate with the new French Government.

(Acknowledge.)

No. 42.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 2.)

THE Secretary of the Admiralty presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram dated the 2nd August, from Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett, reporting his being about to occupy Suez.

Admiralty, August 2, 1882.

Inclosure in No. 42.

Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.)

Suez, August 2, 1882, 1.45 P.M.

I AM now, at 9 A.M. 2nd August, preparing to occupy Suez. "Ruby" arrived.

No. 43.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Thornton.

E

(No. 245.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 2, 1882.

THE Russian Chargé d'Affaires called upon me this afternoon, and told me that the Russian Representative at Constantinople had now received the promised authority to resume attendance at the meetings of the Conference.

M. Davydow stated that his Government were of opinion that any Military Convention for the arrangement of English and Turkish intervention in Egypt should be submitted to the Conference.

He added that his Government thought he must have misapprehended what I had said to him as to the attempt of the Porte to exclude Europe from participation in the future settlement of the Egyptian army.

I told M. Davydow that I had no communication to make to him at present with regard to the arrangement of English and Turkish intervention.

With reference to his concluding remark, I showed M. Davydow the appendix to the Turkish Declaration, which expressly states that the military reforms to be introduced in Egypt are to be settled by agreement between the Porte and the Khedive.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 44.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

E

(No. 261.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 2, 1882.

THE Italian Ambassador called upon me this afternoon and told me that M. Mancini had informed your Excellency and the French Chargé d'Affaires at Rome, with regard to the proposal that had been made for the protection of the Suez Canal, that as the Conference had not had the opportunity of pronouncing on the special question, Italy had sounded the other Powers, and was now in a position to accept the Anglo-French proposal as a purely maritime measure of police and superintendence, in which all the Powers interested should be invited to participate, according to rules to be settled, and with reservations as to any special circumstances in which maritime police alone might be found to be insufficient.

General Menabrea said that Count Corti was to make a proposal in this sense, and that it was hoped it would be supported by the English and French Plenipotentiaries.

I remarked that we scarcely knew in what position we stood with regard to the proposals made jointly by us and France to the Italian Government and to the Conference.

The French Government had made the proposal, but the vote of the Chamber would prevent their acting upon it, and I conceived that they must be considered as having withdrawn from it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Earl Granville to Mr. Morier.

(No. 118 A.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 2, 1882.

THE Spanish Minister called upon me on the 30th ultimo, and told me that he had received a despatch from the Minister for Foreign Affairs dated the 24th, and instructing him to explain to me that the Spanish Government had been deeply interested in recent events in Egypt, and felt it their duty to bring to the notice of Her Majesty's Government and to the other Great Powers the claim of Spain to be heard in the Council of the Powers in questions which concerned her directly in view of her interests both as a Mediterranean and as a colonial Power.

It was sufficient, said the Marquis de Casa Laiglesia, to look at the geographical position of Spain, the vast extent of her Mediterranean coast, her possession of the Balearic Islands, her fortresses on the north coast of Africa, and the necessity for free communication with those dependencies, to understand the interest with which she must regard any event or agitation calculated to affect her position as a Mediterranean nation.

So long as events in Egypt had been of a purely domestic character, and had related merely to the introduction of reforms, the Spanish Government had followed with interest the laudable efforts intended to secure the peace and prosperity of a country of which the prosperity and tranquillity are now a matter of vital and common concern for Europe.

These questions, however, had now involved that of the security of the Suez Canal, which connects Spain with her Colonies in the extreme east, which secures her political, administrative, and commercial relations with the Philippine Archipelago, and the 7,000,000 of Spanish subjects composing its population, which is the channel for the importation of its immense riches into the rest of the world, and the interruption of which, the Marquis de Casa Laiglesia continued, would compromise the future and even the existence of Spain as a colonial Power.

Her Majesty's Government would not, therefore, be surprised that the Government of Spain, which possessed on the other side of the Canal an Empire inferior only to that of Great Britain among the Great Powers, should consider themselves justified in asserting their legitimate and unquestionable right to take part in the deliberations on this subject of Powers, of whom several possessed, neither in the Mediterranean nor in the extreme east, interests to be compared with those of Spain. The Spanish Government were at the same time firmly convinced that in order that the decisions of the Great Powers on the subject of the Suez Canal should bear that character of justice and permanence which would alone render them effectual, it was indispensable to have the participation of Powers who, like Spain, were vitally interested in the question.

The Spanish Government were not alone in this opinion. The French Minister for Foreign Affairs had made a declaration in the same sense some days ago, when he had informed the French Chamber that, having been invited by Great Britain to make provision for the security of the navigation of the Canal in conjunction with her and with the assent of Europe, he had considered himself obliged to consult the opinion of Europe, and to obtain her consent with regard to any measures to be taken, believing that this was the best method of defending the interests of France.

The Marquis de Casa Laiglesia concluded by saying that other Governments had also expressed confidentially a desire to see Spain take part in the solution of questions which so directly interested her, and that the Spanish Government, relying on our feeling of justice, and on our cordial relations with Spain, did not doubt that Her Majesty's Government would recognize the justice and expediency of admitting Spain to any deliberations for the purpose of adopting measures of a permanent and definite character with regard to the Suez Canal.

The Marquis de Casa Laiglesia called upon me again this afternoon to receive my reply. I told him that the best answer I could give would be to repeat to him what I had already stated to the German Government with regard to the recent proposal of England and France. I had said that we had never made any proposal to settle arrangements for insuring the safety of the Suez Canal for an unlimited time. We considered that the responsibility for its protection lies primarily with the Egyptian Government. Failing the Egyptian Government, recourse might be had to the sovereign Power.

At the present moment the *de jure* Government of Egypt is helpless, and the

de facto Government is the principal source from which danger to the Canal is to be apprehended. The Sovereign has taken no steps for its protection.

If the principal tenant of a house were to see it on fire, he would not wait for the owner and other tenants, but would try to put out the fire at once. He would be glad to concert with any of the other tenants who were ready to join him, and would exclude none.

That was our position with regard to the Canal. We hoped that the state of anarchy in Egypt would soon be at an end, and, when that happened, we are not aware of any reasons why the responsibility of securing the safety of the Canal should be transferred from those on whom it has hitherto rested. This, I said, had been the substance of our explanations to Prince Bismarck.

I added that if a necessity should arise for considering questions connected with the Canal, I could not give an isolated opinion as to the admission of any Power or Powers to the deliberations on those questions, but should be glad to communicate with the other Governments on the subject of the admission. In the meanwhile, we should welcome any assistance for the protection of the Canal, and if the Spanish Government had near the Canal or intended to send there, any vessels of war or gun-boats, we should be happy to put our Admiral into friendly communication with the officers in command of them, and to give them a cordial reception.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Telegram received by the Secretary of State for War, dated Alexandria, August 2, 1882, 6.25 P.M.—(Communicated to the Foreign Office, August 2.)

LEFT front picket of Ramleh lines driven in by body of Arabi's cavalry at 2 o'clock this morning. Picket maintained its position 80 yards in rear of its original post. Firing continued some time, and Arabi's men shortly withdrew. Post reoccupied. No casualty.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2, 6.45 P.M.)

(No. 285.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 2, 1882, 3.45 P.M.

MAJOR TROTTER reports that two transports capable of carrying 1,000 men each are ready for sea, and two other transports are being prepared. Three iron-clads are also ready for sea, and there are others which could be got ready in a few days.

Hobart Pasha tells me that no ships of war are to be sent to Egypt.

The Turks have obtained a loan of £ T. 150,000 on the security of the Russian indemnity allotments, and they are now negotiating a loan for another £ T. 100,000 with the Galata bankers.

The first detachment of troops is to consist of 5,000 men to land at Alexandria to act as a body-guard for the Khedive. The above force will consist of two or four batteries of artillery—twenty-four guns—to embark at once from Constantinople, five battalions of infantry from Salonica, and three battalions from Scutari, in Albania.

Two hundred Nordenfeldt guns, ordered some time ago, and which have been paid for in full, are being delivered; sixty have been already handed over, and the others are being delivered at the rate of twenty a-day. These guns have, however, only 150 rounds of ammunition per gun. A contract is on the point of being made for the supply of half-a-million more cartridges.

Major Trotter adds that the feeling among the Turkish soldiers [?] to be in favour of Arabi. An officer was overheard yesterday telling some soldiers that the Sultan was sending troops to help Arabi against the English.

The notion of surrounding the Khedive with a Turkish body-guard is worthy of attention.

No. 48.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 2.)

(No. 691. Confidential. Ext. 285.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 2, 1882.

I LEARN from Major Trotter that two large transports, capable of carrying 1,000 men each, are ready for sea, and two other transports are being prepared. Three iron-clads are also ready for sea, and there are others which could be got ready in a few days.

Hobart Pasha informs me, however, that no ships of war are to be sent to Egypt.

The Porte has obtained a loan of £ T. 150,000 on the security of the Russian indemnity allotments, and it is now negotiating a loan for another £ T. 100,000 with the Galata bankers.

The first detachment of troops is to consist of 5,000 men to land at Alexandria to act as a body-guard for the Khedive.

The above force will consist of two or four batteries of artillery, twenty-four guns, to embark at once from Constantinople, five battalions of infantry from Salonica, and three battalions from Scutari, in Albania.

Two hundred Nordenfeldt guns, ordered some time ago, and which have been paid for in full, are being delivered; 60 have been already handed over, and the others are being delivered at the rate of 20 a-day. These guns have, however, only 150 rounds of ammunition per gun. A contract is on the point of being made for the supply of 500,000 more cartridges.

Major Trotter adds that he hears that the feeling amongst the Turkish soldiers appears to be in favour of Arabi Pasha.

An officer was overheard yesterday telling some soldiers that the Sultan was sending troops to help Arabi against the English.

It appears to me that the notion of surrounding the Khedive with a Turkish body-guard is worthy of your Lordship's attention.

I am, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 49.

Sir E. Thornton to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2, 7.30 P.M.)

(No. 40.)

(Telegraphic.)

St. Petersburg, August 2, 1882, 2.5 P.M.

M. DE GIERS tells me that he last night sent instructions to the Russian Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople to join in the Conference in considering Lord Dufferin's statement with regard to the issue of Proclamation by the Sultan declaring Arabi, and of the question of the military arrangement of the intervention in Egypt.

No. 50.

Sir E. Thornton to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 2.)

(No. 248. Ext. 40.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, August 2, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, during an interview which I had to-day with M. de Giers, his Excellency stated that he had last night transmitted instructions to the Russian Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople to the effect that he should be present at the Conference, and should take part in the consideration of the statements made by Her Majesty's Ambassador with regard to the issue of a Proclamation by the Sultan declaring Arabi to be a rebel, and of the question of the military arrangement of the intervention in Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. THORNTON.

No. 51.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 476. Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 2, 1882, 7.40 P.M.

WE think that it would be advantageous for the Conference to break up, but would prefer others doing it.

No. 52.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 449. Secret. Ext. 476.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 2, 1882.

HER Majesty's Government are of opinion that it would, under present circumstances, be of advantage that the Conference should break up, but they would prefer that its close should be brought about by the action of some other Power.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 53.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2, 10.30 P.M.)

(No. 379.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 2, 1882, 10 P.M.

KHEDIVE requests that Her Majesty's Government may be informed that he thinks it very undesirable that Turkish troops should be quartered in Alexandria, or allowed, after disembarking, to remain in its immediate neighbourhood. He fears fanatical excitement and complications with English forces. He suggests that they should occupy Ramleh lines, or, if Aboukir is occupied, that it should be made their base. In any case, he urges strongly the expediency of keeping them at a distance from Alexandria. His Highness also wishes it known that Arabi is believed to contemplate retreat, when defeated, into Upper Egypt. The feeling there is not favourable to Arabi, and the appearance of Indian troops in Upper Egypt from Koseir or otherwise, if accompanied by loyal Notables, would greatly facilitate settlement. Arabi has dismissed the Sheikh El Mueri and Sheikh El Sadat, heads of two important sects, they being favourable to the Khedive. The civil functionaries also throughout the country are opposed to Arabi.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 54.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 2.)

(No. 509. Ext. 379.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 2, 1882.

THE Khedive has expressed a wish to inform Her Majesty's Government of his views in regard to the quartering of the Turkish troops on their arrival in Egypt. His Highness thinks it very undesirable to keep them in Alexandria, or even in its immediate neighbourhood, on account of the fanatical excitement which may be aroused, and the possibility of collisions with the English forces. While strongly urging that they should be removed to a distance from Alexandria, His Highness suggests that the Ramleh lines should be occupied by them, or that they should garrison Aboukir, if that place falls into our hands.

The Khedive likewise wishes to make known that it is believed that Arabi Pasha contemplates a retreat into Upper Egypt when defeated. The feeling in those parts being unfavourable to Arabi, His Highness believes that if Indian troops were sent up via Koseir or otherwise, accompanied by loyal Notables, their arrival in Upper Egypt would greatly facilitate the settlement of affairs.

The Sheikhs at Bakri and El-Sadat, who represent two influential sects, have been

dismissed from their posts by Arabi Pasha because they are favourable to the Khedive. The civil functionaries in all parts of Egypt are also opposed to Arabi.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

No. 55.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(No. 480.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, July 22, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 471 of yesterday's date relative to what passed at Ramleh during and after the bombardment, I have further ascertained from the same authority that, when questioned by the Khedive as to his future course of action, Arabi Pasha replied that, as he was unable to resist the English, he should have recourse to "irregular measures." It was thus that he foreshadowed the burning and pillaging of Alexandria and the stoppage of the water supply. Arabi Pasha had previously, in conversation with an Englishman, hinted at the means of defence he should employ.

It is evident that Arabi's chief strength lies in his unscrupulous and barbarous mode of warfare. At this moment there is such a terrible dread among the officials at the Palace of what may happen to their property at Cairo and elsewhere that the Khedive's action is paralyzed, and His Highness is deterred from denouncing Arabi as a rebel by his unwillingness to incur the consequences of his retaliation.

At an interview with the Khedive yesterday, I endeavoured to represent to His Highness the moral effect which such a Proclamation would produce, and the encouragement which it would afford to those who still remained faithful to His Highness at Cairo and elsewhere.

The Khedive replied that here in Alexandria there was no need of anything to show that Arabi's power was gone, and that, as for Cairo, he had telegraphed the fact of Arabi's dismissal from Port Saïd, but had no means of publishing a Proclamation there; His Highness added that the Mudirs in the provinces would not, under present circumstances, venture to obey his orders, but that he was taking steps to distribute a Circular by means of certain Bedouins.

I regret to state that, contrary to the Khedive's impression in regard to Alexandria, many Arabs are now leaving to join Arabi. This may be attributed chiefly to their fear of his executing the threats contained in his recent Proclamations, though it is also in some degree owing to the panic created by the imminent failure of the water supply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

No. 56.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(No. 482.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, July 23, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report that a native Tribunal has now been established, and commenced its work yesterday. The President is Osman Pasha Nedjeb, a Circassian officer, whose appointment gives much satisfaction; he is assisted by six officers of the Egyptian army, two of whom are Aides-de-camp of the Khedive. Lord Charles Beresford, assisted by Mr. Beaman, will watch the proceedings in his capacity as Chief of the Police; he still retains the right to punish persons who are caught red-handed in acts of incendiarism, but this reservation has not hitherto been made use of.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

No. 57.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(No. 489.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, July 25, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 484 of the 23rd instant, I have the honour to inclose the "Moniteur Égyptien," containing the official French version of the Khedive's Proclamation. Your Lordship will notice certain slight divergences in the translation, but there is no reason to suppose that they are intentional, being merely due to a less accurate rendering of the sense of the original.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure in No. 57.

Extract from the "Moniteur Égyptien" of July 24, 1882.

Traduction de l'Ordre Supérieur adressé à Ahmed Pacha Arabi, en date du 4 Ramadan, 1299 (20 Juillet, 1882), No. 47, et Proclamation de Son Altesse le Khédive.

Ordre Supérieur.

VOTRE départ pour Kafr-Dawar avec les troupes, et l'abandon de la ville d'Alexandrie sans que vous en ayez reçu l'ordre, l'interruption des communications par le chemin de fer, les postes, et les télégraphes, l'empêchement que vous apportez au retour des fugitifs d'Alexandrie dans leurs foyers, la continuation de vos préparatifs militaires, et le refus de vous rendre auprès de moi lorsque je vous ai fait appeler: telles sont les causes qui motivent votre destitution.

En conséquence, je vous adresse cet Ordre pour vous informer que je vous destitue de vos fonctions de Ministre de la Guerre et de la Marine.

Proclamation.

Que ceux qui lisent cet Ordre sachent les causes de la destitution d'Ahmed Pacha Arabi, et pour l'édification de tous, voici la vérité.

Après dix heures de bombardement, nos fortifications étaient anéanties; 400 de nos canons détruits, et la plupart de nos artilleurs tués ou mis hors de combat; tandis que la flotte Anglaise ne perdait que cinq hommes et que ses vaisseaux n'éprouvaient aucune avarie sérieuse.

Ahmed Pacha Arabi se rendit alors auprès de moi au Palais de Ramleh pour m'annoncer la douloureuse nouvelle de la destruction de nos forts.

De son côté, l'Amiral de la flotte Anglaise me demandait de faire évacuer les forts d'El-Adjemi, de Dekhilé, et de Mex, pour les faire occuper par ses troupes. Le Conseil des Ministres, assisté de son Excellence Dervish Pacha, s'étant aussitôt réuni, il fut décidé que les forts ne pouvaient pas être rendus sans l'ordre exprès de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, et qu'il importait au contraire de pourvoir à leur défense en renforçant les garnisons pour s'opposer à un débarquement de troupes étrangères. En même temps une dépêche télégraphique était adressée à la Sublime Porte.

Or, Arabi Pacha se rendit ensuite à la porte Rosette, à Alexandrie, sans prendre aucune mesure militaire. Je le fis suivre par un de mes Aides-de-camp pour lui rappeler qu'il devait envoyer des renforts aux positions convenues.

Arabi Pacha répondit qu'il n'y enverrait pas un seul soldat; il donna l'ordre aux troupes de se retirer avec lui, et se dirigea sur Kafr-Dawar, laissant ainsi la ville dépourvue de défenseurs!

Le lendemain les troupes Anglaises débarquèrent à Alexandrie, le point le plus important de notre pays, et s'emparèrent de la ville sans qu'un seul coup de fusil ait été tiré, fait qui déshonorerait l'armée Égyptienne, si la honte ineffaçable n'en retombait pas toute entière sur celui qui en avait le commandement, sur Arabi Pacha.

Des pourparlers furent ouverts avec l'Amiral Anglais; il me fit observer qu'Alexandrie était livrée au pillage et à l'incendie, qu'il était dans la nécessité de pourvoir aux moyens

de sauver ce qui restait de la ville; il me déclara que si le Gouvernement Égyptien avait des soldats fidèles et obéissants il était prêt à leur en laisser la garde, que même dans le cas où des troupes Ottomanes arriveraient, il ne s'opposerait pas aux soldats de la Sublime Porte. Il n'avait, ajouta-t-il, ouvert le feu et détruit les fortifications qu'à la suite des menaces et des préparatifs hostiles dont la flotte était l'objet.

Mais Arabi Pacha avait déjà pris la fuite avec toute l'armée dans la direction de Kafr-Dawar; les troupes Anglaises entrèrent donc dans la ville et prirent les mesures nécessaires pour éteindre les incendies et assurer la sécurité publique.

Ainsi, de ces faits mêmes, résulte la reconnaissance des déclarations des Puissances et des décisions de la Conférence de Constantinople, aux termes desquelles non seulement il ne sera permis à aucune Puissance de prendre possession d'une partie quelconque du territoire de l'Égypte, mais encore notre pays restera dans le *statu quo* sans qu'aucune atteinte soit portée aux droits de la Sublime Porte ni aux privilèges accordés à l'Égypte en vertu des Firmans Impériaux.

Les escadres Anglaise et Française n'étaient d'ailleurs venues dans les eaux d'Alexandrie qu'en présence de l'état d'anarchie où se trouvait l'Égypte. Une faction militaire, triomphant par la force et l'arbitraire, ayant pour chef Arabi Pacha, avait enlevé le pouvoir effectif des mains du Khédive nommé par Sa Majesté le Sultan, Kalife des Musulmans!

Le bon ordre ne peut exister alors que des chefs militaires se sont emparés du Gouvernement au détriment des Ministres et des Administrations publiques, c'est-à-dire du Gouvernement légal.

Cependant toutes les Puissances et particulièrement la France et la Grande-Bretagne ont des intérêts importants en Égypte; ces deux Puissances qui sont déjà intervenues au moment de l'abdication du Khédive Ismaïl Pacha et dans les affaires financières aujourd'hui réglées par la Loi de Liquidation, n'abandonneront évidemment pas le pays dans le désordre actuel.

L'intervention existe de fait et l'Égypte n'a pas les moyens de résister aux Puissances. Mais cette intervention n'a jamais eu pour objet une prise de possession; elle n'a d'autre but que de délivrer notre pays de l'anarchie où il est plongé et de rétablir l'ordre public.

Quiconque oserait donc prêter l'oreille aux insinuations d'Arabi Pacha et tenterait de s'opposer à une force contre laquelle toute résistance est vaine, s'exposerait et exposerait son pays à un malheur certain dans l'intérêt personnel d'un seul, Arabi Pacha; il serait criminel et jetterait sa patrie dans le plus grand des périls sans pouvoir la sauver.

Si je n'étais pas certain que la France et la Grande-Bretagne n'ont aucune intention de s'emparer de l'Égypte, si je ne savais pas qu'elles sont mues par le désir seul d'améliorer sa situation, je serais le premier à exposer ma vie et mes biens jusqu'à ce qu'il ait plu à Dieu de décider et de rendre son arrêt tout-puissant.

On a dit que les soldats Anglais fusillent sans raison les indigènes; c'est un mensonge! aucune nation civilisée n'oserait commettre des actes aussi iniques. Mais il est vrai que les incendiaires, les pillards et les voleurs sont arrêtés et sévèrement jugés. Qui donc oserait intervenir en leur faveur?

Tout habitant, soldat ou civil, peut rentrer librement à Alexandrie à charge de déposer ses armes; il ne sera porté atteinte à la vie et aux biens de personne.

Tout Égyptien qui aime vraiment son pays doit se soumettre à mes ordres et écouter la voix de mes Ministres. Je fais loyalement appel à tous, et ceux qui auraient été trompés, ceux qui ne connaîtraient point la situation, tous peuvent encore revenir à la vérité; la porte du pardon est ouverte à tous; officiers, soldats ou civils; ceux-là seuls sont exceptés dont les agissements, trop connus, ne peuvent rester impunis.

Tous ceux qui ont encore dans le cœur quelque sentiment de loyauté et de religion doivent craindre la justice de Dieu en songeant aux conséquences d'une conduite qui ne peut que jeter le pays dans les plus grands dangers sans pouvoir en espérer un avantage quelconque, et entraîner la patrie dans la voie la plus désastreuse, la perte de l'honneur et l'avilissement de la défaite.

Puisse Dieu, par notre soumission à ses volontés, nous délivrer de plus grands maux et écarter de nous les périls qui nous menacent! Puisse la sécurité de la patrie et de nos foyers nous être rendue par l'intercession de notre Saint Prophète!

No. 58.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(No. 495.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, July 26, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translation of extracts from the "Taif" newspaper, in which all kinds of accusations are made against the Khedive, and the action of Arabi and his army is entirely misrepresented.

I have not thought it necessary to trouble your Lordship with translations of the telegrams reporting the progress of the bombardment; they do not contain a word of truth, and the wilful misstatements are only ludicrous.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure in No. 58.

Extract from the "Tayef" Newspaper of July 20, 1882.

(Translation from the Arabic.)

THE ACTION OF THE KHEDIVE.—The Khedive got English frigates to come here to bombard Alexandria, as is proved by their shots, on which were engraved the words, "Souvenir for Alexandria."

After the destruction of the forts and the burning of the town, the Khedive returned from Ramleh to his Palace of Ras-el-Tin, in order to see the town.

He sent for the Admiral, and asked him to occupy the town with his English soldiers, to order every Mussulman found in the town to be killed, and even to kill the Egyptian soldiers who composed his guard.

He gave the mosques up to the English to be destroyed, although the Khedive has often himself prayed in these mosques.

After having completed these barbarous acts, he wrote to the Mudirs and Mamours to say that peace was arranged between himself and the English, and ordered that the soldiers should be disbanded and military preparations stopped, in order that the conquest of all Egypt might be facilitated for the English, and that he might revenge himself by causing a massacre of the Egyptians.

Arabi Pasha, on learning this, addressed a Circular to the Mudirs and Mamours, warning them to pay no attention to the orders of the Khedive, whose Government was a bad one, and who had brought the country and the religion of Islam into dishonour.

(Here followed the Circular of Arabi Pasha, the text of which was inclosed in Mr. Cartwright's despatch No. 474 of the 21st July, 1882.)

... The public sees that the recall of the inhabitants of Alexandria was only with the object of causing their destruction, and Salem Salem, the Khedive's doctor, sent for the doctors of the town, in order to offer them as a holocaust to his master.

In ancient times Pharaoh used to kill children, and left the women alive, but Tewfik immolates women and children, burns houses, and destroys mosques.

What man is there who, in presence of these abominable deeds, does not cry out against this Khedive, who goes over to the enemy and takes part against the Mussulmans and their brothers, the Copts; who does not say that this Khedive has betrayed his God, his prophet, and all believers!

(Then comes a letter from the Khedive to Arabi, saying that)—

The bombardment of the forts was only on account of the hostile works which had been carried on, and which had been continued after warning had been given; and that the Admiral had declared that England had no quarrel with the Khedive's Government, and that, if the Egyptian Government could dispose of regular, faithful, and obedient troops, he was willing to surrender the town to them, for that England was not at war with Egypt; that all the Powers and the Conference were agreed that the integrity of Egypt should be maintained and that they would support the *status quo*, all the privileges of the country, and the rights of the Sultan, and that they had decided to send Turkish troops to re-establish order.

The Khedive therefore calls upon Arabi to cease all military preparations, and to return to Alexandria to receive his instructions.

The answer of Arabi Pasha declared that it was not true to say that war with England had not been declared, since it had been decided at the Council of Ministers at which the Khedive presided to reject the demands of the Admiral.

"The declarations of the Admiral only show their wish to make peace.

"I perfectly agree with your Highness as to the advisability, in the general interest, of making peace; but as Alexandria is occupied by the English authorities I cannot come there, and I therefore pray you to send the Ministers to the army, to consult with us on this subject.

"If the Admiral is willing to give up the town to our army, after it has been destroyed and burnt by the shells from his ships, my army, which has done no wrong, is ready to accept the surrender of the town when the English men-of-war shall have left the waters of Alexandria. For the honour of your Government and of the country it is necessary to continue military preparations, for we can no longer trust these declarations of peace which have so often been made to us, and which are really intended only to make us discontinue preparations."

(Then follow some verses from the Koran.)

The article continues with exhortations to the inhabitants not to trust the professions of the English, but to give all possible aid to the Egyptian army, to maintain good order, and to respect the Christians and Jews who are our guests.

The country is called upon to assist the fugitives from Alexandria, who have suffered for the whole country. The authorities are advised to lodge these fugitives in the deserted houses of those who have enriched themselves at the expense of the country, but abandoned it in the time of misfortune.

The article concludes with various telegrams announcing that several ships had been sunk and the attacks on the forts repulsed.

No. 59.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(No. 496.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, July 26, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation from the official newspaper "El Wakaya-el-Masriyeh" of Arabi Pasha's letter to the Under-Secretary for War, giving his account of the causes which led to the bombardment, and of the results which followed it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure in No. 59.

Extract from the "Wakaya-el-Masriyeh" (the Official Arabic Newspaper) of July 18, 1882.

(Translation.)

ARABI PASHA'S LETTER TO THE SUB-MINISTER OF WAR, INFORMING HIM OF WHAT HAD TAKEN PLACE.—He attributes the hostilities to the intrigues of the Khedive, which resulted in the arrival of foreign ships in the harbour of Alexandria. On their arrival they commenced giving orders that the armaments erected for the defence of our religion and nation should be removed. This happened whilst we and every individual Egyptian were in ignorance as to whence came these evils upon us. The Khedive assembled a Special Council. They had a discussion, and afterwards the British fleet opened fire upon the forts of Alexandria, and when they had fired twenty shots, and a reply became lawfully obligatory, we returned this fire, and the engagement took place and continued for about eleven hours, when most of the forts of this place were destroyed, and they burnt the habitations, and when the places of residence of the soldiers had been destroyed by the missiles a truce was effected and our soldiers withdrew, after the inhabitants had fled barefoot. The English then sent word that if we did not surrender the remaining forts within an hour and a-half they would burn the town to the very last. After we had left the town it was empty, and then the Khedive went with his family over to the enemy at Ras-el-Tin, and consigned his women to their Commander, and took the guards whom we had placed for his safe keeping, and when they reached Ras-el-Tin they met the English soldiers with friendliness, and disarmed our soldiers whom we had placed as guards, and they went so far as to give the horses of the Egyptian soldiers to the English soldiers; one of the former was seen on foot like a Saïs, following his own horse, upon which an English soldier was riding. From all these facts it will be seen that he who

caused all these evils and misfortunes was, without doubt, the Khedive himself, and one proof of this is that he seized the opportunity of our being occupied in the organization of the army for the defence when the landing was effected, and he ordered the President of the Council to issue a Proclamation to all the Departments of Government, informing them that the state of affairs had improved, ordering the inhabitants of Alexandria to return to their homes; he also ordered that they should not attend to the requisitions of the War Department, because peace existed between him and the English. On the other hand, we see English soldiers employed as his guards, and directing the cleansing of the town of Alexandria, which they destroyed, killing all Moslems whom they meet, destroying the railways, robbing the chests of the Government Administrations, violating women and children; not only so, but he ordered the Director of the Government Bakery to supply the English soldiers with bread, and no longer to give any to the Egyptian soldiers. From all this, it will be proved to everybody that his object is the delivery of the people of this city into the hands of the English, in revenge. I sent you the telegrams and my answers, that you may assemble a Council of Notables, and lay before them these facts, and after exchanging ideas, you will place on record your decision as to what should be done for the public good, and as to the advisability of having such a one at the head of the Government, and whether such things as are now going on can be lawfully permitted or not. When you have drawn up your decision and sealed it, you will send it to me. Continue your military preparations, for I have written in the same sense to all Departments of the Government.

No. 60.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(No. 497.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, July 27, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of the note which, in pursuance of the instructions contained in your Lordship's telegram No. 365 of the 23rd instant, I addressed to Ragheb Pasha, notifying to his Excellency that, in consequence of the dismissal of Arabi Pasha, Her Majesty's Government were willing to recognize the Khedive's Ministry.

I also inclose copy of Ragheb Pasha's reply.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

Mr. Cartwright to Ragheb Pasha.

Alexandrie, le 25 Juillet, 1882.

M. le Ministre,

J'AI l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de votre Excellence, que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, ayant appris que Son Altesse le Khédive a destitué Arabi Pacha de ses fonctions comme Ministre de la Guerre, se trouve en état de renouveler les relations amicales avec le Gouvernement Égyptien; et j'ai le plaisir de faire communication à votre Excellence des ordres que j'ai reçus de Lord Granville à cet effet.

Veillez, &c.

(Signé) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

Ragheb Pasha to Mr. Cartwright.

Alexandrie, le 26 Juillet, 1882.

M. le Gérant,

JE m'empresse de vous accuser réception de la dépêche que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire en date du 25 courant.

Aux termes de cette dépêche, vous voulez bien m'informer que, à la suite de la destitution d'Arabi Pacha de ses fonctions de Ministre de la Guerre et de la Marine, prononcée par Son Altesse le Khédive, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique se

trouvait en état de renouer les relations amicales avec le Gouvernement Égyptien, et que vous aviez reçu de Lord Granville des instructions à cet effet.

J'ai immédiatement porté cette communication à la connaissance du Gouvernement de Son Altesse, et je suis heureux de pouvoir vous exprimer la satisfaction qu'il éprouve de la reprise de ces bonnes relations et de son sincère désir de les maintenir et de les resserrer.

En vous priant, M. le Gérant, de vouloir bien vous faire, auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté, l'interprète de ces sentiments, je saisis, &c.

(Signé) RAGHEB.

No. 61.

Vice-Consul Jago to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(No. 16.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, July 26, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that claims of British subjects for losses by fire and pillage during the recent events at Alexandria have begun to be made to me, and to request that I may be informed what steps I should take with reference thereto beyond the simple registration of such claims in the Consulate.

I may mention that I am informed that certain other foreign nationalities have in some instances invoked the assistance of the International Tribunals, in order to ascertain, by means of experts deputed by them, the extent of losses incurred, and that such surveys are now being made. Up to the present time, however, no British subjects have applied to the Tribunals, confining themselves to sending in their claims in a general and provisional manner to this Consulate in writing pending the obtaining of more accurate and detailed information respecting their losses.

I should therefore be glad to be instructed whether I should advise British subjects, in answer to their inquiries, to invoke likewise the assistance of the International Tribunals, or in what other manner I should proceed with reference to their claims, in order to ensure their being in order when the proper time comes for their consideration.

I would venture to suggest that instructions be sent to me on this point by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. S. JAGO.

No. 62.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(No. 320.)

My Lord,

Rome, July 31, 1882.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 87, M. Mancini informed me, in the interview I had with his Excellency yesterday, that the publications of the Stefani Agency were not necessarily of an official character, and the one referred to had been permitted only as being less incorrect than another version, which it had been intended to publish.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 63.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(No. 321.)

My Lord,

Rome, July 31, 1882.

I RECEIVED a message from the Minister for Foreign Affairs this morning requesting me to call upon him between one and two o'clock.

I accordingly went to M. Mancini at that hour, when his Excellency said that in fulfilment of the promise he had given me yesterday, he would now inform me of the answer of the Italian Government to the invitation of the English and French Governments to join with them in measures for the protection of the Suez Canal.

After a few preliminary remarks in which his Excellency recalled our previous conversations upon this subject when he had stated that, the question of the protection

of the Canal being before the Conference, he could not treat it in a separate form, and subsequently, when he became aware that the Conference had not discussed it, that he had placed himself in direct communication with the other Governments upon it, his Excellency proceeded to give me the following reply, which I took down from dictation, and have since telegraphed to your Lordship:—

“Pour donner suite à sa réserve de répondre, le Gouvernement Italien n'ayant pu provoquer jusqu'ici une discussion dans le sein de la Conférence, a eu soin de sonder directement l'opinion des autres Cabinets, et il est prêt à adhérer à l'invitation Anglo-Française pourvu qu'on admette en principe que la protection collective de la sécurité du Canal sera organisée dans la forme d'un service de police et de surveillance maritime, auquel toutes les Puissances intéressées pourraient participer moyennant des règles à convenir, et avec réserve d'une entente éventuelle dans tout cas spécial où les simples mesures de police maritime paraîtraient insuffisantes.”

M. Mancini added that Count Corti had been instructed to make the above declaration to the Conference.

As regards the rules to be agreed upon, his Excellency expressed the opinion that they should be settled by the Naval Commanders on the spot. Not being “un homme technique,” he would not feel himself competent in the matter. The “tout cas spécial où les simples mesures de police maritime paraîtraient insuffisantes” means, his Excellency explained, the case of an attack, which would have to be repelled by the employment of troops on land.

M. Mancini further stated that he presumed the declaration to the Conference and the taking act of it by that assembly would be sufficient, but that, if it was not, he would be prepared to sign an agreement or an exchange of notes in the sense of the declaration. With reference to this point, I read to his Excellency your Lordship's telegram No. 522 of the 25th instant to Lord Lyons.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 64.

Saïd Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by Musurus Pasha, August 3.)

Constantinople, le 1^{er} Août, 1882.

(Télégraphique.)

EN réponse aux communications que Lord Dufferin vient de me faire, nous avons adressé, Assim Pacha et moi, aux Ambassadeurs des Grandes Puissances, membres de la Conférence, la note ci-après:—

“Les Soussignés, Plénipotentiaires de la Sublime Porte, ont pris connaissance des communications faites par son Excellence Lord Dufferin à chacun des membres de la Conférence, ainsi qu'à eux-mêmes et lesquelles peuvent se résumer dans les quatre points qui suivent:—

“Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique se trouve dans l'obligation de maintenir ses troupes et de continuer ses préparatifs, cette obligation lui ayant été imposée par l'inaction prolongée du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan vis-à-vis la situation actuelle de l'Égypte.

“Il demande que l'envoi des troupes Ottomanes en Égypte soit défini d'une manière satisfaisante et que toute ambiguïté en soit écartée par une déclaration préalable du Gouvernement Ottoman. Dans ces conditions il acceptera l'arrivée de ces troupes dans ce pays et leur coopération.

“Le Cabinet de St. James désire faire savoir à la Conférence que, dès qu'il aura atteint le but militaire qu'il a en vue, il invoquera l'aide des Puissances afin de prendre des mesures pour l'avenir et le bon gouvernement de l'Égypte.

“Dans la séance du 26 Juillet de la Conférence, tous les Représentants étrangers s'étant prononcés en faveur de la publication immédiate d'une Proclamation de la Sublime Porte, proposée par le Plénipotentiaire Britannique, pour soutenir le Khédive et pour dénoncer comme rebelle Arabi Pacha, objet de faveurs et d'une haute distinction honorifique de la part de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, en conséquence Lord Dufferin demande à savoir l'époque à laquelle cette Proclamation devra être faite.

“En ce qui concerne les assertions contenues dans le premier point, les Plénipotentiaires Ottomans croient devoir dire que, sans avoir nullement la pensée de préjuger l'action que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique a eue utile d'entreprendre, dans son propre intérêt comme État souverain et indépendant, alors surtout que, suivant ses déclarations, cette action en Égypte s'exerce dans les intérêts généraux

Égyptiens, ils sont pourtant d'avis que l'action directe dans ce pays du Souverain territorial, dont les droits ont été à plusieurs reprises solennellement reconnus par l'Angleterre et les autres Puissances, serait peut-être de nature à produire un effet plus pratique et plus efficace que si elle était exercée de deux côtés à la fois.

Quant à l'assertion relative à l'inaction du Gouvernement Impérial, les Plénipotentiaires Ottomans la repoussent énergiquement et se font forts de démontrer le contraire. En effet, aussitôt que les Puissances réunies en Conférence ont demandé au Gouvernement Impérial, par la note identique de leurs Représentants en date du 15 Juillet, l'envoi de ses troupes en Égypte, la Sublime Porte, qui a pu avoir ses raisons à elle pour décliner au début sa participation à cette Assemblée, s'est pourtant empressée non seulement de déférer au vœu des Cabinets en prenant part à la Conférence pour arriver au prompt rétablissement de l'ordre en Égypte et arrêter les mesures nécessaires pour cet objet; mais encore elle a déclaré, dès la première séance, qu'elle acceptait aussi la demande qui lui était faite pour l'expédition militaire Ottomane en Égypte.

Dès lors, les Plénipotentiaires Ottomans se voient, en présence d'un fait aussi précis, dans une situation telle qu'ils ne sauraient s'expliquer les raisons ou les preuves qui ont pu motiver l'assertion dont il s'agit.

Il en est de même, les Plénipotentiaires de la Sublime Porte se permettent de l'avancer, pour la déclaration préalable demandée au Gouvernement Impérial et qui forme l'objet du deuxième point.

MM. les Plénipotentiaires des Grandes Puissances savent, en effet, que le Gouvernement Ottoman, en se déclarant prêt à envoyer des troupes en Égypte, a basé cette résolution sur la teneur de la note identique en question qui a défini fermement aussi bien les conditions dans lesquelles devra s'effectuer cet envoi que le mode d'action des troupes Impériales et la mission qu'elles sont appelées à remplir sur les lieux au point de vue du rétablissement de l'ordre, du fonctionnement régulier de l'Administration et du maintien du *statu quo*, le tout en vertu d'un accord ultérieur qui sera établi à cet effet entre l'Empire et les Six Puissances.

Il ne serait pas hors de propos d'ajouter ici que l'adhésion sus-énoncée de la Sublime Porte a rencontré la satisfaction générale des Puissances, laquelle ne semblerait pas trop, à l'heure qu'il est, se concilier avec la concurrence posée dans le second point, et qui subordonne à la déclaration préalable qui précède l'acceptation par l'Angleterre de l'arrivée des troupes Ottomanes en Égypte et leur coopération.

Quant au troisième point, celui-ci va de soi, et le Gouvernement Ottoman n'a jamais eu pour sa part l'envie de décliner le concours des Puissances qu'il appelle au contraire de tous ses vœux pour assurer le *statu quo* Égyptien. Son adhésion aux dispositions de la note identique du 15 Juillet qui s'est également préoccupée des conditions devant garantir l'avenir de ce pays, prouve surabondamment ce que les Plénipotentiaires de la Sublime Porte ont l'honneur d'avancer.

Les Plénipotentiaires se reposent donc avec confiance sur la haute sagesse de la Conférence pour voir les considérations qu'ils viennent d'exposer rencontrer son appréciation éclairée.

En ce qui concerne le contenu du quatrième point, les Plénipotentiaires Ottomans ont l'honneur de faire remarquer que, si leur mémoire ne leur fait pas défaut, la question de la Proclamation à lancer en Égypte, Proclamation qui entre dans le programme de leur Gouvernement, a été mise en avant, il est vrai, au sein de la Conférence, mais n'a pas été arrêtée. Il est évident que l'action militaire à laquelle la Sublime Porte va procéder sur la demande des Puissances nécessitera une promulgation en Égypte pour bien définir cette action aux yeux de la population Égyptienne. Mais le Gouvernement Impérial est d'avis, et il espère qu'il sera approuvé par les honorables membres de la Conférence, que la Proclamation, pour avoir un résultat sûr et efficace, devrait se faire simultanément avec la présence des troupes Impériales sur les lieux. C'est ainsi que la chose se passe, d'ailleurs, partout où le désordre éclate et exige des mesures de rigueur. Il est donc tout naturel de penser qu'une Proclamation qui aurait aussi bien à expliquer l'état des choses qu'à accuser un sujet de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan qui, au moment où il témoignait de son dévouement et de sa fidélité envers son Souverain, a été, à l'instar d'autres fonctionnaires Égyptiens, l'objet de distinctions honorifiques, doit puiser sa force dans le concours immédiat du facteur matériel dont l'absence, au moment de la publication, en rendrait stérile les dispositions, serait même peut-être de nature à aggraver la situation déjà si compromise du pays.

Les Plénipotentiaires Ottomans ont l'espoir que leurs Excellences MM. les Représentants, membres de la Conférence, ne verront dans ces considérations du

Gouvernement Impérial que son sincère désir d'arriver à rétablir l'ordre en Égypte, en exposant franchement ses intentions en vue d'écarter toute mesure qui pourrait entraver la marche de l'apaisement, et en tenant à cœur de s'appuyer, dans l'exercice de ses droits de souveraineté en Égypte, sur une entente loyale et féconde en résultats, entente qui aura à s'établir entre lui et les Grandes Puissances."

Vous voudrez bien communiquer le document qui précède à M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, en exprimant, en même temps, à son Excellence l'espoir que nous avons de la voir partager les appréciations que nous y avons énoncées.

No. 65.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3, 10:40 A.M.)

(No. 286.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 2, 1882, 11:30 P.M.

I HAVE received the reply of the Turkish Plenipotentiaries to the communications made to them in conformity with your Lordship's telegrams Nos. 444 and 455. The Turkish note is very long, and written in very bad French. It says, with regard to our declaration about our troops remaining in Egypt, that without wishing to prejudice the action which the British Government has thought it advisable to take in its own interests as the Sovereign of an independent State, especially as that action is about to be exercised for the common benefit, the Porte is, nevertheless, of opinion that the direct action of the *ipso facto* Sovereign, whose rights have been frequently solemnly recognized by England and the other Powers, would be more likely to produce a practical and efficacious result than if exercised on two sides at the time. A long paragraph then shows that instead of there having been any delay on the part of the Ottoman Government, it, on the contrary, at the first meeting of the Conference after it had received the identic note of the 15th July, expressed its readiness to intervene in Egypt on the conditions indicated by the Powers.

The note further declares that the objects with which the Porte is sending its troops to Egypt are sufficiently explained and declared by its acceptance of the identic note. With regard to the Proclamation, the note states that the Porte is of opinion that the Proclamation had better be issued when the troops are on the spot, especially as one of its objects will be to accuse a subject of His Majesty who had received a mark of His Majesty's favour at the instance of other Egyptian functionaries on the occasion of his giving a proof of devotion and fidelity. The note is confused in its expressions. Your Lordship will perceive, however, that it modifies the previous communication, in which the Ottoman Plenipotentiaries had expressed their hope that the English troops would retire. The present note accepts the view that they are there for the general interest, and merely expresses the opinion that the sole action of the Sultan would have had a more practical effect.

No. 66.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 3.)

(No. 692. Confidential. Ext. 286.)
My Lord,

Constantinople, August 2, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of the reply addressed to me as well as to the other members of the Egyptian Conference by the Ottoman Plenipotentiaries with reference to the communications made to them in compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's telegrams No. 444 of the 28th and Nos. 455 and 460 of the 29th ultimo, on the subject of military intervention in Egypt, and the Sultan's Proclamation denouncing Arabi Pasha as a rebel.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 66.

Saïd Pasha to the Earl of Dufferin.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Sublime Porte, le 1^{er} Août, 1882.

J'AI l'honneur de transmettre ci-joint à votre Excellence la réponse des Plénipotentiaires Ottomans à ses communications du 30 Juillet, réponse qui a été adressée également aux autres membres de la Conférence.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) SAÏD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 66.

*The Turkish Plenipotentiaries to the Earl of Dufferin.*Sublime Porte, le 1^{er} Août, 1882.

LES Soussignés, Plénipotentiaires de la Sublime Porte, ont pris connaissance des communications faites par son Excellence Lord Dufferin à chacun des membres de la Conférence ainsi qu'à eux-mêmes, et lesquelles peuvent se résumer en les quatre points qui suivent :—

1. Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique se trouve dans l'obligation de maintenir ses troupes et de continuer ses préparatifs, cette obligation lui ayant été imposée par l'inaction prolongée du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, vis-à-vis la situation actuelle de l'Égypte.

2. Il demande que l'envoi des troupes Ottomanes en Égypte soit défini d'une manière satisfaisante et que toute ambiguïté en soit écartée par une déclaration préalable du Gouvernement Ottoman. Dans ces conditions, il acceptera l'arrivée de ces troupes dans ce pays et leur coopération.

3. Le Cabinet de St. James désire faire savoir à la Conférence que dès qu'il aura atteint le but militaire qu'il a en vue, il invoquera l'aide des Puissances afin de prendre des mesures pour l'avenir et le bon gouvernement de l'Égypte.

4. Dans la séance du 26 Juillet de la Conférence, tous les Représentants Européens s'étant prononcés en faveur de la publication immédiate d'une Proclamation de la Sublime Porte proposée par son Excellence le Plénipotentiaire Britannique, pour soutenir le Khédive et pour dénoncer comme rebelle Arabi Pacha, qui a été l'objet de faveurs et d'une haute distinction honorifique de la part de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, en conséquence Lord Dufferin demande à savoir l'époque à laquelle cette Proclamation devra être faite.

En ce qui concerne les assertions contenues dans le premier point, les Plénipotentiaires Ottomans croient devoir dire que sans avoir nullement la pensée de préjuger l'action que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique a eue utile d'entreprendre dans son propre intérêt comme État souverain et indépendant, alors surtout que suivant ses déclarations, cette action en Égypte s'exerce dans l'intérêt général également, ils sont pourtant d'avis que l'action directe dans ce pays du Souverain territorial dont les droits ont été à plusieurs reprises solennellement reconnus par l'Angleterre et les autres Puissances serait peut-être de nature à produire un effet plus pratique et plus efficace que si elle était exercée de deux côtés à la fois.

Quant à l'assertion relative à l'inaction du Gouvernement Ottoman, les Plénipotentiaires Ottomans la repoussent énergiquement et se font forts de démontrer le contraire. En effet, aussitôt que les Puissances réunies en Conférence ont demandé au Gouvernement Impérial la note identique de leurs Représentants en date du 15 Juillet, l'envoi de troupes Ottomanes en Égypte, la Porte, qui pouvait avoir ses raisons à elle pour décliner au début sa participation à cette assemblée, s'est pourtant empressée non seulement de déférer au vœu des Cabinets en prenant part à la Conférence pour arriver au prompt rétablissement de l'ordre en Égypte, et arrêter les mesures nécessaires pour cet objet, mais encore elle a déclaré dès la première séance qu'elle acceptait aussi la demande qui lui était faite pour l'expédition militaire Ottomane en Égypte.

Dès lors les Plénipotentiaires Ottomans se voient, en présence d'un fait aussi précis, dans une situation telle qu'ils ne sauraient s'expliquer les raisons ou les preuves qui ont pu motiver l'assertion dont il s'agit.

Il en est de même, les Plénipotentiaires de la Sublime Porte se permettent de

l'avancer, pour la déclaration préalable demandée au Gouvernement Impérial et qui forme l'objet du deuxième point.

MM. les Plénipotentiaires des Grandes Puissances savent, en effet, que le Gouvernement Ottoman, en se déclarant prêt à envoyer des troupes en Égypte, a basé cette résolution sur la teneur précisément de la note identique en question, qui a défini clairement aussi bien les conditions dans lesquelles devra s'effectuer cet envoi que le mode d'action des troupes Impériales, et la mission qu'elles sont appelées à remplir sur les lieux au point de vue du rétablissement de l'ordre, du fonctionnement régulier de l'Administration et du maintien du *statu quo*, le tout en vertu d'un accord ultérieur qui sera établi à cet effet entre l'Empire et les Six Puissances.

Il ne serait pas hors de propos d'ajouter ici que l'adhésion susénoncée de la Porte a rencontré la satisfaction générale des Puissances, laquelle ne semblerait pas trop, à l'heure qu'il est, se concilier avec la condition posée dans le second point et qui subordonne à la déclaration préalable qui précède l'acceptation par l'Angleterre de l'arrivée des troupes Ottomanes en Égypte et leur coopération.

Quant au troisième point celui-ci va de soi, et le Gouvernement Ottoman n'a jamais eu pour sa part l'idée de décliner le concours des Puissances qu'il appelle, au contraire, de tous ses vœux pour assurer le *statu quo* Égyptien.

Son adhésion aux dispositions de la note identique du 15 Juillet, qui s'est également préoccupé des conditions devant garantir l'avenir de ce pays, prouve surabondamment ce que les Plénipotentiaires de la Sublime Porte ont l'honneur d'avancer.

Les Plénipotentiaires se reposent donc avec confiance sur la haute sagesse de la Conférence pour voir les considérations qu'ils viennent d'exposer rencontrer son appréciation éclairée.

Abordant le contenu du quatrième point, les Plénipotentiaires Ottomans ont l'honneur de faire remarquer que, si leur mémoire ne leur fait pas défaut, la question de la Proclamation à lancer en Égypte, Proclamation qui entre dans le programme de leur Gouvernement, a été mise en avant, il est vrai, au sein de la Conférence, mais n'a point été arrêtée. Il est évident que l'action militaire à laquelle la Sublime Porte va procéder, sur la demande des Puissances, nécessitera une promulgation en Égypte pour bien définir cette action aux yeux de la population Égyptienne; mais le Gouvernement Impérial est d'avis, et il espère qu'il sera approuvé par les honorables membres de la Conférence, que la Proclamation, pour avoir un résultat sûr et efficace, devrait se faire simultanément avec la présence des troupes Impériales sur les lieux. C'est ainsi que la chose se passe, d'ailleurs, partout où le désordre éclate et exige des mesures de rigueur. Il est donc tout naturel de penser qu'une Proclamation qui aurait aussi bien à expliquer l'état des choses qu'à accuser un sujet de Sa Majesté le Sultan, qui, au moment où il témoignait de sa fidélité envers son Souverain, a été, à l'instar d'autres distinctions honorifiques, doit puiser sa force dans le concours immédiat du facteur matériel dont l'absence, au moment de la publication, en rendrait stériles les dispositions et serait même peut-être de nature à aggraver la situation déjà si compromise du pays.

Les Plénipotentiaires Ottomans ont l'espoir que leurs Excellences MM. les Représentants, membres de la Conférence, ne verront dans ces considérations du Gouvernement Impérial que son sincère désir d'arriver à rétablir l'ordre en Égypte en exposant franchement ses idées en vue d'écarter toute mesure qui pourrait entraver la marche de l'apaisement, et en tenant à cœur de s'appuyer, dans l'exercice de ses droits de souveraineté en Égypte, sur une entente loyale et féconde en résultats, entente qui aura à s'établir entre lui et les Grandes Puissances.

Les Soussignés, &c.

(Signé) SAÏD.
M. ASSIM.

No. 67.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3, 12:30 p.m.)

(No. 287.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 2, 1882, 11:33 p.m.

WE have agreed to send the following identic telegram to our respective Governments after the twelfth meeting of the Conference to-day :—

“At the opening of the twelfth meeting the Ottoman Delegates laid before the Conference the Declaration, together with its Appendix, of the 27th July, which they had already addressed directly to each of us.”

M

[1410]

"The British Ambassador also laid before the Conference a double communication respecting the presence of English troops in Egypt and the demand for a Proclamation declaring Arabi a rebel, as well as the answer received from the Porte dated the 1st August.

"The Italian Ambassador afterwards read the following proposal to the Conference :—

"[Here begins the proposal.]

"The Conference recognizes expediency of proper organization, with the concurrence ('concours') of the Porte, for the safety of free passage of the Suez Canal, coincident with a purely maritime service for the police and supervision of the Canal, in which all the Powers should be invited to take part, according to rules to be hereafter agreed upon, and with the reservation of concerting in each special case in which the application of these rules should seem to be insufficient."

"[Here ends the proposal.]

"The British Ambassador, having no instructions, could only refer it to his Government.

"The French Ambassador called attention to the likeness between this proposal and the one that had been made on a former occasion by his English colleague and himself.

"The Representatives of Austria, Germany, and Russia adhered to Count Corti's proposal.

"The Ottoman Delegates reserved the right to reply at the next meeting.

"Objections having been raised to the Declaration of the 27th July, and to its Appendix, with regard to the acceptance by the Porte of intervention in Egypt, the Ottoman Delegates at last engaged to produce a more categorical Declaration at the next meeting.

"The next meeting will take place on Friday next, the 4th instant."

No. 68.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 3.)

(No. 693. Confidential. Ext. 287.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of the identic telegram we agreed to send to our respective Governments after the twelfth meeting of the Egyptian Conference to-day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 68.

Identic Telegram addressed to the Six Powers by their Representatives on the Egyptian Conference after the 12th Meeting, August 2, 1882.

À L'OUVERTURE de la douzième séance MM. les Délégués Ottomans ont saisi la Conférence de la Déclaration avec son Appendice en date du 27 Juillet, qu'ils avaient déjà adressés directement à chacun de nous. La Conférence a été également saisie d'une double communication de l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre touchant la présence des troupes Anglaises en Égypte et la demande d'une Proclamation déclarant Arabi rebelle, ainsi que de la réponse de la Sublime Porte en date du 1^{er} Août.

L'Ambassadeur d'Italie a ensuite donné lecture à la Conférence de la proposition suivante :—

"La Conférence reconnaît qu'il convient d'organiser, pour la sécurité de la libre navigation du Canal de Suez, avec le concours de la Sublime Porte, un service purement naval de police et de surveillance, auquel toutes les Puissances seraient appelées à participer d'après des règles à convenir, et avec réserve de se concerter dans chaque cas spécial où l'application de ces règles paraîtrait insuffisante."

L'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre, qui n'ayant pas d'instructions, il ne pouvait qu'en référer à son Gouvernement.

L'Ambassadeur de France a fait ressortir la similitude entre cette proposition et celle qui avait été précédemment formulée par son collègue d'Angleterre et par lui.

Les Représentants d'Autriche, d'Allemagne, et de Russie ont adhéré à la proposition de l'Ambassadeur d'Italie.

Les Délégués Ottomans se sont réservé de répondre à la prochaine séance.

La Déclaration du 27 Juillet et son Appendice relativement à l'acceptation par la Sublime Porte de l'intervention en Égypte ayant soulevé des objections, MM. les Délégués Ottomans se sont enfin engagés à apporter à la prochaine séance une Déclaration plus catégorique.

Prochaine séance Vendredi.

No. 69.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3, 10:30 A.M.)

(No. 288.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 2, 1882, 11:35 P.M.

AT the Conference to-day Saïd Pasha said that he would submit the proposed Proclamation to the Conference. Though he would not make any positive promise on the subject, he rather gave me to understand that the Porte would do what we wanted. I again hinted to him that unless the Proclamation was issued no Turkish troops would be allowed to land. I am inclined to think that the Turks have made up their minds to settle things amicably with us. Only 5,000 troops appear to be going for the present at all events.

It might have a good effect if I were authorized to reassure the Turkish Government that we still desired to show a friendly spirit towards them, and did not intend remaining in the country after the objects of our expedition were accomplished.

No. 70.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 3.)

(No. 694. Ext. 288.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 2, 1882.

AT the Conference to-day, Saïd Pasha stated that he would submit the proposed Proclamation, denouncing Arabi Pasha as a rebel, to the Conference. Though his Excellency would not make any positive promise on the subject, he rather gave me to understand that the Sublime Porte would do what we wished in the matter. I again hinted to him that, unless the Proclamation was issued, no Turkish troops would be allowed to land.

I am inclined to think that the Turks have made up their minds to settle things in a friendly way with us.

Only 5,000 troops appear to be going, for the present at all events.

It might have a good effect if I were authorized to reassure the Ottoman Government that we still desired to show a friendly spirit towards them, and did not intend remaining in the country after the objects of our expedition were attained.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 71.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3, 1 P.M.)

(No. 289.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 2, 1882, 11:36 A.M.

THE Foreign Minister asked me whether the reorganization of the Egyptian army would be governed by our repeated declarations that we did not desire anything to be contrary to the Firmans. His question, I suppose, referred to the right of the Sultan to appoint officers of certain grades in the Egyptian army. I told him that I concluded that we should not desire to run counter to any existing Firmans, but I would ask the question.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 3.)

(No. 695. Confidential. Ext. 289.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 2, 1882.

THE Minister for Foreign Affairs asked me to-day whether the reorganization of the Egyptian army would be governed by our repeated declarations that we did not wish anything to be done contrary to the Firmans. His question, I suppose, referred to the right of the Sultan to appoint officers of certain grades in the Egyptian army.

I told his Excellency that I concluded we should not desire to run counter to any existing Firmans, but that I would ask the question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3, 9.40 A.M.)

(No. 290.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 2, 1882, 11.50 P.M.

WOULD you kindly instruct me as to what my attitude should be with regard to the Italian proposition? I have refrained from discussing it on the ground of having no instructions. As we meet again on Friday, I should be glad to have my instructions before the meeting.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 3.)

(No. 696. Confidential. Ext. 290.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 2, 1882.

I SHOULD be much obliged if your Lordship would kindly instruct me as to what my attitude should be with regard to the Italian proposal respecting the joint supervision of the Suez Canal, as reported in my despatch No. 693 of this day's date. I have refrained from discussing it, on the ground of having no instructions.

As we meet again on Friday, the 4th instant, I should be glad to receive your Lordship's instructions before the meeting.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3, 2 P.M.)

(No. 381.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 3, 1882, 9 A.M.

YOUR Lordship's despatch No. 250 of 28th ultimo.
Premises of Dobson and Richardson completely burnt.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3, 2.30 P.M.)

(No. 382.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 3, 1882, 1 P.M.

CYPHER telegrams were stopped on 31st ultimo by International Office at Berne, owing to order of Arabi Pasha, speaking in name of Egyptian Government, and specially including Government cyphers.

Mistake has now been explained; only private code or cypher messages have been refused at Alexandria.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 3.)

(No. 513. Ext. 382.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 3, 1882.

IN reply to your Lordship's telegram No. 393 of yesterday, I have briefly stated by telegraph the facts with regard to the transmission of cypher telegrams to and from Egypt. I am informed by the Eastern Telegraph Company's Manager here that private messages in code or cypher are not accepted for transmission from Egypt, but that messages can still be sent to Egypt in cypher, and no restrictions whatever have been imposed upon official telegrams addressed by or to foreign Governments or their Agents.

It appears, however, that on the 31st ultimo an order was received at the International Telegraph Office at Berne, purporting to be issued by the Egyptian Government, in which it was expressly stated that Government messages in code or cypher, addressed to Egypt, should be refused.

This had been preceded by instructions from the same source, applying only to private telegrams.

These orders, however, did not emanate from nor pass through Alexandria, and must have been sent to Berne by the Egyptian Telegraph line through Port Saïd, Syria, and Constantinople.

It seems, therefore, evident that the name of the Egyptian Government has been used by Arabi Pasha or his followers, and it is at any rate certain that the Khedive's Government have not issued any such instructions.

I was able to inform your Lordship that, the real state of things having been discovered here, information had been at once sent to Berne, in order that the mistake might be explained and a fresh circular might be issued by the International Office.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3, 2.30 P.M.)

(No. 291.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 3, 1882, noon.

YOUR telegram No. 476.

I had already drafted a telegram to your Lordship suggesting that we should take advantage of Russia's abstention to break up the Conference, when I received the news of Russian Chargé d'Affaires having been instructed to renew his attendance.

Up to this moment the Conference has done nothing towards helping forward the solution of the Egyptian question, but the contrary.

None of the Representatives appear to be Plenipotentiaries in the real sense of the term. They refer home for instructions on every new point that arises, and their Governments are very slow to answer them.

The Sultan will pay no attention to the Conference, however unanimous, when its decisions are contrary to his wishes, but will merely use it as an instrument to thwart us and occasion delay.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 3.)

(No. 697. Secret. Ext. 291.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 2, 1882.

IN reply to your Secret telegram No. 476 of yesterday, I have the honour to state that I had already drafted a telegram to your Lordship suggesting that we should take advantage of Russia's abstention to break up the Conference, when I received the news of M. Onou having been instructed to renew his attendance.

Up to this moment the Conference has done nothing towards forwarding the solution of the Egyptian question, but, on the contrary, none of the Representatives appear to be

Plenipotentiaries in the real sense of the term. They refer home for instructions on every new point that arises, and their Governments are very slow to answer them. The Sultan will pay no attention to the Conference, however unanimous it may be, when its decisions are contrary to His Majesty's wishes, but will only use it as an instrument to thwart us and cause delay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 80.

Consul Churchill to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(Telegraphic.)

Palermo, August 3, 1882.

MODICA fair failure, but agent not discouraged. Consul, Catania, promises 100, Naples 300, Messina 200. I can complete number, perhaps more if required. Officer not yet arrived.

No. 81.

Consul Churchill to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(Telegraphic.)

Palermo, August 3, 1882.

COULD a little more time be possibly allowed, and size decreased by an inch or two?

No. 82.

Consul Grant to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3.)

(Telegraphic.)

Naples, August 3, 1882.

HAVE signed contract for 550 mules, at 575 fr. each, to be delivered by 21st instant, and pack-saddles, if approved by officer, at 25 fr.; 30,000 fr., or equivalent in bonds of Italian Rente, to be deposited with me within forty-eight hours, or contract null and void. Will telegraph when deposit is made.

No. 83.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 477.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

HER Majesty's Government are of opinion that any agreement at present as to the safety of the Suez Canal should be confined to temporary arrangements having reference to existing circumstances.

No. 84.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 450. Ext. 477.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

HER Majesty's Government have had before them your telegram No. 290 of yesterday, inquiring what course you should adopt with regard to the proposal made by the Italian Representative at the twelfth meeting of the Conference upon the subject of the Suez Canal. The Government of the Queen are of opinion that any agreement at present as to the safety of the Suez Canal should be confined to temporary arrangements having reference to existing circumstances, and they desire that your Excellency should frame your conduct accordingly in the Conference.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 85.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 478.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

NO troops can be allowed to land in Egypt until an agreement has been entered into with Her Majesty's Government as to the Proclamation and the Military Convention.

Orders have been sent to the Admiral accordingly.

Inform the Porte in courteous terms, unless the necessity of the communication entirely disappears.

No. 86.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 451. Ext. 478.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

HER Majesty's Government have received information that preparations are being made for the immediate dispatch of Turkish troops to Egypt, but until the Porte shall have entered into an agreement with Her Majesty's Government for the issue of a Proclamation by the Sultan in support of Tewfik Pasha and denouncing Arabi as a rebel, and shall have signed a Military Convention with this country for the co-operation of the Turkish troops with Her Majesty's forces, no Turkish troops can be allowed to land in Egypt. Orders to that effect have been sent to the British Admiral commanding Her Majesty's naval forces in the Mediterranean.

I have to request that you will make this known to the Porte in courteous terms, unless the necessity for such a communication shall have entirely disappeared by the time this despatch reaches you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 87.

Earl Granville to Mr. Cartwright.

(No. 395.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

TELL Sir A. Colvin that the Porte has drawn bills upon the Egyptian Treasury. We regard these bills as unauthorized and without value. Advise accordingly.

No. 88.

Earl Granville to Mr. Cartwright.

(No. 258. Ext. 395.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

IT has come to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Government that the Porte has drawn bills upon the Egyptian Treasury.

You will inform Sir Auckland Colvin that Her Majesty's Government regard such bills as unauthorized and without value, and he should give advice in that sense in the proper quarter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 89.

Earl Granville to Mr. Cartwright.

(No. 259.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

I HAVE received your despatches Nos. 447, 449, and 454 of the 8th, 9th, and 10th ultimo, reporting the measures taken by you and Mr. Beaman for withdrawing

British subjects from Egypt previous to the bombardment of Alexandria, the communications which you addressed at the same time to the foreign Consular Body at Alexandria, and to Dervish and Ragheb Pashas.

I have to inform you that your proceedings throughout are entirely approved. You will state to Mr. Beaman that his conduct whilst in charge of British interests at Cairo reflects great credit upon him, and you will also convey to Sir A. Colvin the acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government for the valuable assistance which he has rendered to you during a period of unusual anxiety and difficulty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 90.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 453.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 605 of the 15th instant, reporting a conversation between your Excellency and the Turkish Foreign Minister relative to the necessity of the entry of the Porte into the Conference, in order to arrive at an understanding regarding the dispatch of Turkish troops to Egypt; and I have to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the language which you held to Saïd Pasha on that occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 91.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 928.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

IN consequence of the proceedings in the French Chamber on Saturday last, and the desire of Her Majesty's Government to act cordially with that of France, Admiral Hoskins, at Port Saïd, has been instructed for the present to confine his operations on the Suez Canal to maintaining the *status quo*, and not to land except for the protection of British subjects, or in the event of any attempt being made to block the Canal, which he is instructed to prevent by force. These instructions do not apply to the town of Suez, which does not lie upon the Canal, and as to which the Admiral has been allowed discretion.

This reserve as regards the action of Her Majesty's Government on the Canal is, of course, only temporary, and is contingent upon future military requirements.

Admiral Hoskins has received from the Khedive full authority to act for him in the establishment of his authority over the rebels on the Canal.

Your Excellency is authorized to communicate this despatch, confidentially, to the French Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 92.

Sir Charles W. Dilke to the British Suez Canal Directors.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

THE question has been raised by the German Government whether it is reasonable that gun-boats patrolling the Canal, and using the water-way, not for their own purposes, but in order to insure the security of traffic, should be required to pay dues; I am directed by Earl Granville to request that you will be good enough to favour his Lordship with any observations that you may wish to make on this point.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES W. DILKE.

No. 93.

*Lord Tenterden to the Secretary to the Admiralty.**

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you a copy of a letter from the British Suez Canal Directors,† forwarding a copy of a telegram from M. de Lesseps, and reporting a conversation with M. Charles de Lesseps as to the views entertained by his father that the neutrality which the Suez Canal enjoys under the Sultan's Concession gives the right to all ships, whether of commerce or war, to traverse the Canal freely at all times without committing acts of war within its waters or on its borders; and I am to request that, in laying this letter before the Lords of the Admiralty, you will move them to inform Lord Granville whether such an arrangement as that advocated by M. de Lesseps would, in their opinion, be advantageous or disadvantageous to the interests of this country.

I am, &c.
(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 94.

Lord Tenterden to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Confidential.)

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to request that you will inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that his Lordship has been informed, by the German Chargé d'Affaires, that the Commander of the German gun-boat "Möve" has been instructed to take part in the patrol of the Suez Canal. It is not known whether the Commander has been directed to place himself in communication with the British Admiral at Port Saïd, but it has been suggested to the German Government that instructions to that effect should be sent to him.

The Chargé d'Affaires inquired whether gun-boats engaged in patrol duty would be exempted from the payment of the ordinary Canal charges, and was informed that it was not thought that they would be exempted from such payment. The German Minister for Foreign Affairs, in discussing this point subsequently with Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Berlin, expressed the opinion that as the gun-boats patrolling the Canal under existing circumstances would be rendering a very direct service in preventing a diminution of receipts from vessels paying toll, it would be hardly reasonable that they should be required to pay dues as if they were using the Canal on their own account. Lord Granville would be glad to learn the views of the Lords Commissioners on this point, respecting which he is also consulting the British Suez Canal Directors.

I am, &c.
(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 95.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3, 6:40 P.M.)

(No. 83.)
(Telegraphic.)

Vienna, August 3, 1882, 4:4 P.M.

ORDERS respecting the relief of the Austrian refugees at Malta have been telegraphed to the Imperial Consul, who had made no report to his Government about them.

No. 96.

Mr. Egerton to Earl Granville.—(Received August 3, 7:25 P.M.)

(No. 28.)
(Telegraphic.)

Athens, August 3, 1882, 3 P.M.

YOUR No. 17.

On account of mistakes in telegraphing, please repeat from words "maximum" to "case" inclusive.

* Also to War Office.

† No. 33.

O

To save time, pray inform War Office that I have but little hope of getting suitable mules here, but will make every possible effort and inquiry. Greek Government, I believe, generally buy their mules from Sicily and Italy.

No. 97.

Earl Granville to Mr. Cartwright.

(No. 396.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882, 7:50 P.M.

HAVE you obtained Khedive's sanction for landing telegraphic cable at Port Saïd, and establishment of a line of telegraph along the Canal to Suez?

Eastern Telegraph Company have completed agreement with Suez Canal Company for latter purpose, and ask for its confirmation by Egyptian Government, and necessary authority for carrying it into execution. It is understood that the rights of the Egyptian Government in regard to the present line from Alexandria to Suez are maintained, and that the payments to the Government will continue as heretofore. The authority given would cease with the term of the concession to the Canal Company.

No. 98.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Walsham.

(No. 272.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 3, 1882, 8:35 P.M.

COMMUNICATE to German Government following telegram from Mr. Cartwright:—

[See No. 76.]

No. 99.

Consul-General Blunt to Earl Granville.—(Received August 4, 8 A.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Salonica, August 3, 1882, 9 P.M.

OF the five battalions of infantry ordered here from the interior for service in Egypt, one arrived this afternoon, two are expected to-night, and two to-morrow evening. [I hear] these troops are under orders to proceed to the Dardanelles to complete their equipment; and the necessary transport steamers for their conveyance will be here the day after to-morrow. The battalion which arrived this afternoon is 600 strong. The men are very badly clothed, and look sickly. Most of them are Syrians.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 100.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 4, 8:30 A.M.)

(No. 292.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 3, 1882, 11:40 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 474.

Some transports have started for Salonica with a few hundred men on board, but none for Egypt. Everything I have since heard confirms the statement I transmitted in my telegram No. 285 of yesterday, that the Turks do not intend to send more than 5,000 men. I am in hopes that these will not be dispatched without an arrangement being arrived at on the points indicated. I have used as stringent language on the subject as possible. I do not see that we can do more than tell the Turks that if the troops [leave] without what we want being done, they will not be allowed to land. I suppose that the Military Convention will be an arrangement between the Turks and us outside the Conference. The language of the Porte is satisfactory, but that means very little. I hear that the Sultan is more in the hands of the Ulema than ever.

No. 101.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 4.)

(No. 701. Confidential. Ext. 292.)
My Lord,

Therapia, August 3, 1882.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 474 of the 2nd instant, I have the honour to state that some transports have started for Salonica with a few hundred men on board, but none have as yet left for Egypt.

Everything I have since heard confirms the statement I made in my despatch No. 691, Confidential, that the Turks do not intend to send more than 5,000 men. I am in hopes that these will not be dispatched without an arrangement being arrived at on the points indicated. I have used as stringent language on the subject as possible.

It does not appear to me that we can do more than inform the Ottoman Government that if their troops arrive without the arrangement that we wish for being made, they will not be allowed to land.

I presume that the Military Convention will be an arrangement between the Porte and Her Majesty's Government outside the Conference.

The language of the Ottoman Government is satisfactory, but that does not imply much.

I hear that the Sultan is more in the hands of the Ulema than ever.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 102.

Sir Charles W. Dilke to Mr. Cartwright.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882.

I SHALL be asked in the House of Commons whether there is any truth in a circumstantial account which has appeared in the "Times" of Circassian officers having been tortured by Arabi. Have you any information upon the subject?

No. 103.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 481.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882, 1:20 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 282 of the 31st July.

War Office cannot assign any military duties at present to Wilson, but if you concur, we will attach him, together with such of the military Vice-Consuls as you would recommend for the purpose, to Malet.

They will then be available as matters advance. When can they start?

No. 104.

Earl Granville to Mr. Egerton.

(No. 18.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882, 2:25 P.M.

INSTRUCT Consul at Piræus to telegraph home promptly presence or proceedings of any foreign ships of war.

No. 105.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 483.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882, 2:40 P.M.

INSTRUCT Consular officers at all Turkish ports in the Mediterranean to telegraph home promptly presence or proceedings of any foreign squadrons or ships, including Turkish.

No. 106.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 4, 3 P.M.)

(No. 293.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 4, 1882, 12.15 P.M.

A CONFIDENTIAL telegram from the Governor of Syria to the Porte has come into my possession. It states that Arabi has sent an Ezher Ulema as an agent into Syria for the purpose of starting an agitation there against the English. The Fetwa brought by the Ulema represents Egypt as the gate to the Kaaba; and it accuses the English of wanting to carry off the sacred stone. The Governor has put the Ulema into prison, and he says there is no reason to apprehend serious results.

No. 107.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 4.)

(No. 712. Confidential. Ext. 293.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 4, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a confidential telegram addressed to the Prime Minister by the Vali of Syria, stating that Arabi Pasha has sent an Ulema from the El Aghar Mosque as an agent into Syria, for the purpose of starting an agitation there against the English.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 107.

The Vali of Syria to the Prime Minister.

(Traduction.)

(Télégraphique.)

Le 29 Juillet 1882.

J'AI déjà rapporté à votre Altesse, par télégramme, l'anxiété et effervescence qui ont été produites ici à la suite des événements de l'Égypte. Arabi Pacha, en vue d'attirer les habitants du pays voisin, continue à envoyer ici des Ulémas, voulant par ce moyen faciliter et raffermir ses mouvements militaires. Entre autres, le jour précédent un des disciples du Scheik Alish, qui est un des Ulémas de la Mosquée d'Ezher, et qui est reconnu comme Chef de l'Union, nommé Muhammed Bedredi, est arrivé ici porteur du Fetwa de son maître, et se proposant de s'assurer le concours des habitants de Syrie. La plupart des Ulémas et des Notables de la ville et surtout une foule de simples particuliers sont allés à sa rencontre.

Il n'a pas été procédé alors à son arrestation, attendu que l'on avait pensé qu'il n'arrivait ici qu'en pèlerinage. Cependant, ayant réuni les Ulémas dans la mosquée dite "Uméviéh," il leur a lu le Fetwa en question, où il était dit que l'Égypte est la porte de la Raaba et le foyer de l'Islamisme, que le but des Anglais est de détruire l'Islamisme et de s'emparer de la Kaaba sacrée, et que comme ce cas rappelle beaucoup celui des Maures d'Espagne, il est du devoir de tout Musulman de venir au secours d'Arabi Pacha avec son corps et sa fortune. Cette lecture a fait une impression considérable. C'est pourquoi j'ajoute l'information qu'aussitôt que j'ai su ce qui s'est passé j'ai pris les mesures nécessaires, et afin d'écarter le mal qui en pourrait résulter, j'ai procédé avec une bonne manière à son arrestation.

D'après moi il n'y a aucun avantage pour le moment dans l'exécution de l'ordre de mettre sous les armes la première et la seconde classe de la réserve. Conséquemment, je suis à concerter avec le Commandant Militaire tous les moyens et toutes les mesures nécessaires pour la préservation de la tranquillité publique, et je conclus en déclarant que pour le moment il n'y a rien qui la trouble.

No. 108.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 4, 4 P.M.)

(No. 383.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 4, 1882, 1 P.M.

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 396 of yesterday respecting telegraph line to Port Saïd. Khedive's sanction obtained. Matter in hands of Admiral.

No. 109.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 4.)

(No. 514. Ext. 383.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 4, 1882.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 396 of yesterday, instructing me to obtain the Khedive's permission for laying a telegraph cable from Alexandria to Port Saïd, and to connect the latter place with Suez along the Suez Canal, I have the honour to report that on the receipt of your Lordship's former telegram I at once went to the Khedive, who informed me that he was already in communication with Admiral Sir B. Seymour on the subject.

The Admiral now informs me that the Khedive has sanctioned the undertaking.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

No. 110.

Consul Churchill to Earl Granville.—(Received August 4, 4 P.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Palermo, August 4, 1882, 12.50 P.M.

I LEARN, through Consul Grant, that it is 1,800 (and not 800) mules that I am required to furnish. It is beyond my power to supply more than 500 or 600 in all. Grant has greater facilities, and says he can supply 3,000 at cheaper rates than we can here.

No. 111.

Earl Granville to Consul Grant.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882, 5 P.M.

COLONEL KEATE and Veterinary Surgeon Clayton left for Naples yesterday evening to pass mules. Give them every assistance you can.

No. 112.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 484.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882, 5.20 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 292 of yesterday.

The Military Convention should be confined to the Porte and ourselves.

No. 113.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 465. Ext. 484.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882.

WITH reference to the inquiry contained in your Excellency's telegram No. 292 of yesterday, I have to inform you that the Military Convention should be an arrangement to which only the Porte and Her Majesty's Government should be parties.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 114.

Earl Granville to Consul Churchill.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882, 5.40 P.M.

YOUR telegram of to-day.

There is some mistake. I telegraphed to Grant on 31st that number required was 800, of which 250 were being purchased in Sicily, and he was to procure remaining 550 at Naples.

No. 115.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 4, 6.15 P.M.)

(No. 294.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 4, 1882, 3.15 P.M.

I HEAR, upon trustworthy authority, that the French Embassy is vigorously dissuading the Porte from agreeing to a Military Convention with us, and that Germany is doing the same in a less degree. The motive of France is probably to prevent Turks going to Egypt at all.

No. 116.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 4.)

(No. 713. Confidential. Ext. 294.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 4, 1882.

I HEAR, upon trustworthy authority, that the French Embassy is doing its utmost to dissuade the Sublime Porte from agreeing to a Military Convention with Her Majesty's Government, and that Germany is doing the same in a lesser degree. The motive of France is probably to prevent the Turks from going to Egypt at all.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 117.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 4.)

(Secret.)

THE Secretary of the Admiralty presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State, copies of telegrams dated the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th August, to and from Admiral Sir B. Seymour, Alexandria, and Rear-Admiral Sir William Hewett, Suez.

Admiralty, August 4, 1882.

Inclosure 1 in No. 117.

Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

Suez, August 2, 1882, night.

SUEZ occupied. No resistance.
Proclamation issued to inhabitants reassuring them.
Raschid Bey, the Sub-Governor, is remaining here.
After dark town was to have been burnt this evening after last of Egyptian inhabitants removed. Population now returning. Everything calm.
Have hoisted Consular flag.
Passage of Canal not interrupted. "Beacon" arrived this day, and returns.
Will telegraph further to-morrow.
Have informed Viceroy neutrality of Canal carefully respected.
Entered Canal German [gun-boat] "Möwe."

Inclosure 2 in No. 117.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett.

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, August 3, 1882, 12.55 P.M.

YOURS of 2nd received.

Proceedings approved. Prevent any messages going by telegraph which allude to military or naval operations. Avoid use of word "neutrality" for we are not at war, but supporting Viceroy against rebels. Viceroy has given full authority to us for this purpose.

Inclosure 3 in No. 117.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, August 3, 1882, 3.45 P.M.

SEND instructions to Hoskins by steam-vessel to cut the telegraph to Syria, and prevent it being repaired, acting at request of Viceroy, because of advantage given to rebels.

Inclosure 4 in No. 117.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, August 3, 1882, 5.45 P.M.

IF any transport or other vessel appears at Port Saïd, Alexandria, or elsewhere with Turkish troops on board, you will inform the officer in command with the utmost courtesy that you are expecting information from your Government as to the Military Convention to be made between the Sultan and the British Government for the co-operation of the former against the rebels, but that you have not received information that the Convention has been concluded, and that therefore the dispatch of Turkish troops must be premature and due to some misunderstanding, and that your orders are to request the officer commanding to proceed to Crete or elsewhere, and apply to his Government for further instructions, as you are precluded from inviting them to land in Egypt. You will prevent them from landing if they decline to comply with this advice.

Repeat these orders to Rear-Admiral Hoskins at Port Saïd. Acknowledge.

No. 118.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 4.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

Admiralty, August 4, 1882.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the decypher of a telegram, dated the 4th August, from Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

Inclosure in No. 118.

Admiral Sir B. Seymour to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 4, 1882, 11.30 A.M.

YOUR telegram of 3rd received.
Transport "Rhosina" has sailed [to] Port Saïd with instructions accordingly.
Commander of "Antelope" telegraphs that—
"Nine transports will leave Constantinople this morning for Alexandria with 5,000 troops, which have been got ready in forty-eight hours."
Affairs here remain quiet.

No. 119.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 929.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882.

I HAVE to request that your Excellency will represent to the Government of France that Her Majesty's Government are informed that active opposition to the operations of Her Majesty's Government in Egypt, by obstruction of the Suez Canal in the event of British forces being landed at any stations in or near the Canal has been threatened by M. de Lesseps, against whose proceedings, as an eminent French citizen and Chairman of the Canal Company, Her Majesty's Government would be unwilling to take any measures without absolute necessity. They hope that any such necessity will be avoided by those representations on the part of the French Government to M. de Lesseps which, from the friendly relations and the identity of interests in the Canal and in Egyptian affairs generally of both Governments, Her Majesty's Government feel sure they may confidently expect.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 120.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 262.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatches Nos. 306 and 312 of the 26th and 27th ultimo, reporting conversation which you have had with M. Mancini on the subject of the co-operation of Italy in the protection of the Suez Canal, and I approve the language held by your Excellency as reported by you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 121.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 267.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 314 of the 28th ultimo, reporting your having carried out the instructions contained in my telegram No. 269 of the 26th July, to invite Italy, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, to co-operate with Great Britain in a movement in the interior of Egypt.

Your Excellency further records what passed in your conversation with M. Mancini upon this subject, and I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the language which you held in discussing this matter with His Excellency.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 122.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 267 A.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882.

THE Italian Ambassador called upon me to-day and asked me what view Her Majesty's Government took of the Italian proposal for the protection of the Suez Canal.

I told his Excellency that we were of opinion that any agreement on the subject at present should be confined to temporary arrangements having reference to existing circumstances.

General Menabrea said that he understood the proposal of his Government to be made with that intention.

I said that I had perhaps misapprehended it, but that it did not seem to me to be

well framed for the purpose of dealing with a sudden emergency, such as those against which we thought it desirable to provide.

His Excellency asked me whether I could give him any information as to the occupation of Suez, which was reported in the newspapers.

I said that Her Majesty's Government had sent no instructions for the occupation, but that the Admiral had authority to land troops if he found it necessary. He had done so, I believed, in consequence of apprehended dangers to the town and the Canal, and his action had been approved. He was acting in the interest of the Khedive, who had given power to our Naval Commander to take what steps he thought necessary for the protection of the Canal in His Highness' name.

General Menabrea asked me whether anything further had taken place with regard to the general question, and whether the Porte was sending troops to Egypt.

I said that we had no information yet that the Porte had actually accepted the conditions laid down by the Conference, nor had they consented to issue a Proclamation against Arabi, nor to enter into a Military Convention with us as to the employment of our respective forces in Egypt. We could not consent to the landing of Turkish troops in Egypt without a satisfactory agreement on these points, and we had instructed Lord Dufferin and our Admiral to that effect.

General Menabrea said that that might be serious.

I told his Excellency that I did not believe any Turkish troops were yet starting.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 123.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 233.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882.

THE Austrian Chargé d'Affaires called upon me to-day, and told me that he was authorized to state to me confidentially the substance of a conversation between Count Kálnoky and the Turkish Ambassador.

The latter had communicated to Count Kálnoky a telegram from the Porte, explaining that the Proclamation against Arabi Pasha could only be issued after the arrival of the Turkish troops in Egypt.

Count Kálnoky had replied that he could only advise the Sultan to resolve without delay upon issuing the Proclamation, which would simplify the situation and the relations between England and the Porte. This seemed to him to be in the interest of Turkey, and he urgently recommended the latter to come to a friendly understanding with England as to the question of military intervention.

Edhem Pasha having objected that the Porte did not feel confidence in the intentions of England with regard to Egypt, Count Kálnoky said he thought he could express positively his conviction that England did not contemplate a permanent military occupation of Egypt, and that these suspicions were therefore unfounded. By settling with England the bases of joint action, the Porte would obtain the surest guarantee that the interests of Turkey would not suffer. It was out of the question that England should now withdraw her troops from Egypt, and it would be the wisest plan for the Porte to proceed in accord with her.

M. de Hengelmüller said that he was instructed, in making the above communication, to add that Count Kálnoky thought that, in the interest of all the Powers who were concerned in Eastern affairs, it would be very dangerous if the antagonism between Christians and Mussulmans were excited, and the religious fanaticism of the latter inflamed, by the intervention of England in Egypt without the concurrence of Turkey.

I requested M. de Hengelmüller to offer my best thanks to Count Kálnoky for this communication, and for the friendly spirit towards this country which his Excellency had shown in his language to Edhem Pasha. I added that Count Kálnoky had faithfully represented our intentions. We were desirous of acting in co-operation with Turkey, and we only required to have satisfactory evidence of the Sultan's wishes and objects in the shape of a proper Proclamation, and an arrangement for co-operation between the Turkish and English forces.

In answer to M. de Hengelmüller's last observation, I said that we should do our best to secure agreement with Turkey, but that, even without such an agreement, I did not see that our action was of a nature to produce fanatical animosity between Mussul-

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mans and Christians, as we were intervening in support of the Mussulman Ruler of the State against a rebellious portion of his subjects.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 124.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 485.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882, 7.25 P.M.

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR has been instructed, if any vessel with Turkish troops appears at Port Saïd, Alexandria, or elsewhere, to inform officer in command, with the utmost courtesy, that he is expecting information from his Government as to the Military Convention to be made between Turkey and England for the co-operation of the former against the rebels, but that he has not received information that the Convention has been concluded, and that therefore the dispatch of Turkish troops must be premature and due to some misunderstanding, and that his orders are to request the officer commanding to proceed to Crete or elsewhere and apply to Turkish Government for further instructions, as Admiral Seymour is precluded from inviting them to land in Egypt.

Admiral Seymour is instructed to prevent their landing if they decline to comply with his advice.

No. 125.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 486.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882, 7.40 P.M.

ADMIRAL HEWETT telegraphed 2nd instant:—
"Occupied Suez. Proclamation issued to inhabitants reassuring them. Sub-Governor remains. Town was to have been burnt this evening after Egyptian inhabitants removed. Population now returning. Passage of Canal not interrupted. Everything calm. Have hoisted Consular flag."

No. 126.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 487.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 4, 1882, 7.45 P.M.

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR telegraphs to-day that he has heard from Commander of "Antelope" that nine transports would leave Constantinople this morning for Alexandria with 5,000 troops.

No. 127.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 4, 10.30 P.M.)

(No. 84.)
(Telegraphic.)

Vienna, August 4, 1882, 5 P.M.

THE Minister for Foreign Affairs has said to me that he would be glad if the Conference could be brought to a close, if it can be done without having the appearance of a disagreement among the Powers, which would create general alarm. He said he thought that, if the Conference could arrive at a temporary arrangement for the protection of the Canal, it might be adjourned until the affairs of Egypt had been brought to a point at which further concert was required. I had given Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs no intimation of the wish of Her Majesty's Government as expressed in your Lordship's telegram to Lord Dufferin No. 476.

No. 128.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 4.)

(No. 400. Confidential. Ext. 84.)
My Lord,

Vienna, August 4, 1882.

HAVING learnt from your Lordship's telegram of yesterday to Lord Dufferin that Her Majesty's Government would be glad if the Conference could be brought to a close, I this morning turned the conversation with Count Kálnoky upon the work that it had to do, with the view of ascertaining whether he considered that there was any practical benefit in its continuation.

He almost immediately observed that he should be glad if the Conference could be got rid of, provided that it could be done in such a way as not to amount to a proclamation of failure, and above all not to give the appearance of a disagreement among the Powers.

If the Conference could arrive at a temporary arrangement for the protection of the Suez Canal, it might, he thought, be adjourned till the affairs of Egypt had been brought to a point at which a further concert was required.

He was afraid that a too abrupt dissolution might cause a general panic on the Exchanges.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 129.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 5.)

(No. 18.)
My Lord,

London, August 5, 1882.

WE have the honour to forward herewith a letter we have received from Mr. Standen, dated the 4th instant, in which he states the views which M. Charles de Lesseps has expressed to him as to a supposed proposal for the future management of the Suez Canal by an International Commission.

Having no knowledge that such a measure is in contemplation, we do not feel called upon to offer any remarks on the subject, but we shall be glad of an opportunity of doing so in the event of the scheme, to which M. Charles de Lesseps adverts, and to which in its practical application he strongly objects, ever being seriously brought under consideration.

Mr. Standen informs us that M. Charles de Lesseps is anxious that his views on this important matter should be brought before Her Majesty's Government.

We have, &c.
(Signed) C. RIVERS WILSON.
J. STOKES.

Inclosure in No. 129.

Mr. Standen to Sir J. Stokes.

My dear Sir John,

Paris, 6, Rue de la Bienfaisance, August 4, 1882.

IN the course of a conversation yesterday, M. Charles de Lesseps offered some remarks, the substance of which may, I think, prove interesting to Lord Granville.

I believe we may assume that at present the Suez Canal Company is managed by its Council of Administration, and by the British Government, that is to say, that the British Government, in having Representatives on its Board, has an influence on the Canal management such as is possessed by no other Power in Europe.

There can be no doubt on this point. Our Government is the one they look to, and no other Power has, up to the present time, attempted to interfere.

Can we still preserve this situation? It is a most important one both for England and for the Canal Company.

It now seems certain, however, that other nations, jealous, perhaps, of our position, are no longer willing to leave the control so entirely in our hands.

Austria, Germany, Russia, and Italy intend proposing a joint protectorate, calling on Holland, Spain, and, perhaps, even Greece to join them, together with France and England, in this collective action.

M. Charles de Lesseps, from private information, attributes the initiative of this scheme to Austria, though it may, of course, be brought forward by any other Power.

This joint action will probably take the form of an International Commission, and should this be the case, and England become a party to it, he believes that the position and influence that she at present possesses on the Canal will irretrievably be lost.

We have seen already, he remarked, what the International Sanitary Commission was able to do, and how small a part England, who had so much at stake, was able to play in it; but this, he affirms, will be as nothing compared to the interference that an International Commission, appointed to watch over the interests and security of the Canal, will most certainly bring in its navigation and management.

England will be one only among the many. At present she stands alone, and M. Charles de Lesseps trusts that her Government will be well on its guard, and will pause before consenting to this International Protectorate which the other Powers are so anxious to bring about.

It seems to me a matter of regret that the English press during the late events should have given greater prominence to the want of security of the Canal and the necessity for its protection, than to the more important point of re-establishing order in Egypt and protecting the Khedive and his Government. The former idea has been only too readily taken up by all the Powers, who now claim a right to interfere on the Canal, a comparatively simple matter, and one which leaves the Egyptian question untouched; whereas, the latter protectorate, namely, that over the Egyptian Government, carries with it the protectorate of the Canal also, and is so far preferable to the former, inasmuch as it is one that can only be exercised by England and France jointly, or by England alone should France decline to interfere.

I told M. Charles de Lesseps, at the close of our conversation, that I would ask you to submit his remarks to Lord Granville.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) EDW. J. STANDEN.

No. 130.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 5.)

(No. 19.)

My Lord,

London, August 5, 1882.

WE have the honour to forward herewith copy of a telegram from M. Ferdinand de Lesseps to his son in Paris, dated from Ismaïlia yesterday morning, in which he repeats his protests against the measures which may be taken by the English naval authorities, again declaring them to be a cause of danger, and not a protection, to the Canal. He expresses his determination to resist any act of war along the Canal, and desires M. Charles de Lesseps to call an immediate meeting of the Council of Administration. A special meeting of the Council is accordingly summoned for to-day. It will be attended by Mr. Standen, who will refrain from taking part in any political discussion or from voting.

We have, &c.
(Signed) C. RIVERS WILSON.
J. STOKES.

Inclosure in No. 130.

M. F. de Lesseps to M. C. de Lesseps.

(Télégraphique.)

Ismaïlia, le 4 Août, 1882, 8:40 matin.

AMIRAL Anglais, Port Saïd, m'écrit qu'il est décidé à prendre malgré mes protestations telle mesure qu'il jugera nécessaire pour occuper le Canal. Il donne à cette occupation le prétexte de la protection, et pour faire cesser mon opposition il me communique une lettre du Khédive qui lui donne tout pouvoir pour agir sur Canal. Je lui déclare que le Canal ne court aucun danger de la part d'Arabi, que m'a donné jusqu'à présent de nombreuses preuves d'humanité, et qu'une occupation Anglaise du Canal, loin

de protéger la navigation, ne peut que la compromettre en donnant à Arabi l'exemple de la violation de la neutralité du Canal, qu'il a respectée jusqu'ici. Je suis décidé à m'opposer à tout acte de guerre par le Canal et te prie de réunir le Conseil immédiatement.

No. 131.

Note Verbale communicated to Earl Granville by M. d'Antas, August 5.

E

LE Portugal, ainsi que j'ai eu l'honneur de le dire à Lord Granville dans la dernière entrevue que j'ai eue avec son Excellence, ne peut pas s'abstenir de suivre avec intérêt les phases de la question Égyptienne et surtout de la question du Canal de Suez. Cet intérêt s'explique parfaitement par l'importance des possessions Portugaises dans l'Inde et dans l'Afrique Orientale.

Tant que la question du Canal de Suez semblait ne devoir être résolue que par l'initiative de l'Angleterre seule, ou avec le concours de la France, ou peut-être d'une autre Grande Puissance, mais en tout cas sur des indications de l'Angleterre, agréées par la Conférence, le Portugal n'avait, à mon sens, point de motif pour demander à intervenir dans les solutions.

Aujourd'hui, cependant, la question semble avoir changé d'aspect. L'Italie, à ce qu'il paraît, a proposé, et la majorité de la Conférence a pris en considération, la nomination d'une Commission qui serait chargée de tout ce qui concerne la sûreté du Canal de Suez. L'Espagne et la Hollande feraient partie de cette Commission, et contribueraient à la garde du Canal.

J'ignore le degré d'authenticité de ces informations. Si elles étaient exactes, s'il s'agissait, en effet, d'une Commission à laquelle serait admise soit l'Espagne, soit la Hollande, je suis persuadé que le Portugal demanderait à en faire partie. La proposition venant de l'Italie, il me semble que ce serait au Gouvernement Italien que le Gouvernement Portugais devrait s'adresser à cet effet.

Je crois devoir appeler la bienveillante attention de Lord Granville sur les faits ci-dessus énoncés. Les biens d'amitié qui n'ont jamais cessé d'exister entre le Portugal et la Grande-Bretagne me font espérer que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique voudrait bien, le cas échéant, appuyer la demande du Gouvernement du Roi.

No. 132.

Mr. Egerton to Earl Granville.—(Received August 5, 9 A.M.)

(No. 30.)

(Telegraphic.)

Athens, August 4, 1882, 11 P.M.

ITALIAN squadron now here. Will instruct Consuls as ordered.

No. 133.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 5, 10:20 A.M.)

(No. 295.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 4, 1882, 11:30 P.M.

THE Ministers have sent to the Palace a Report in favour of the Military Convention. This morning the German Chargé d'Affaires received instructions from his Government to advise the Sultan to come to terms with us, so that the reference in my telegram No. 294 to the German Chargé d'Affaires' opposition to the Convention is out of date. Austria for some time past has been strongly advising concert with us. The Ulema, I understand, are still very much opposed to the Proclamation, for which I am pressing in the most strenuous manner every day.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 5.)

(No. 714. Confidential. Ext. 295.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 4, 1882.

THE Ministers have sent to the Palace a report in favour of the Military Convention.

This morning the German Chargé d'Affaires received instructions from his Government to advise the Sultan to come to terms with England, so that the reference in my despatch No. 713 of this day's date to M. de Hirschfeldt's opposition to the Convention is out of date.

Austria for some time past has been strongly advising the Ottoman Government to act in concert with Great Britain.

The Ulemas, I understand, are still very much opposed to the Proclamation, for which I am pressing in the most strenuous manner every day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 5, 10.20 A.M.)

(No. 296.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 4, 1882, 11.40 P.M.

WHEN the Conference broke up the day before yesterday, most of the Ambassadors having stated that they did not consider the identic note of the 15th July as having as yet been really accepted by the Porte, the communications transmitted by the Turkish Plenipotentiaries in regard to it containing ambiguous phrases and reservations, our Turkish colleagues gave us to understand that, at the next meeting of the Conference, they hoped to be in a position to communicate to the Conference a categorical acceptance of the note in question. The meeting referred to was to take place to-day, but this morning we received a telegram from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to say that an unexpected circumstance (which I believe to be a Council at the Palace) would prevent the reunion [?] of the Conference. As a matter of fact, therefore, the identic note had not yesterday been unreservedly accepted. This is a fact which, in the present circumstances, I think it desirable to bring to your Lordship's notice.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 5.)

(No. 715. Confidential. Ext. 296.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 4, 1882.

WHEN the meeting of the Conference closed on the 2nd instant, most of the Representatives having stated that they did not consider the identic note of the 15th July as having as yet been really accepted by the Porte, the communications transmitted by the Ottoman Plenipotentiaries in regard to it containing ambiguous phrases and reservations, our Ottoman colleagues gave us to understand that at the next meeting they hoped to be in a position to communicate to the Conference a categorical acceptance of the note in question. The meeting referred to was to take place to-day, but this morning the Minister for Foreign Affairs telegraphed to us to say that an unexpected circumstance (which I believe to be a Council at the Palace) would prevent the reunion of the Conference. As a matter of fact, therefore, the identic note has not yet been unreservedly accepted. This is a fact which, in the present circumstances, I think it desirable to bring to your Lordship's notice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 5, 2.30 P.M.)

(No. 297.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 5, 1882, 3 A.M.

TWO large Government transports started on night of the 2nd August, one for the Dardanelles and Salonica, the other for Salonica direct, with stores, provisions, and details of troops from garrison here, to complete battalion at Salonica to war strength. I believe they carried about 1,000 soldiers, infantry and artillery. Two other Mahsoulieh steamers left the same night, one for Smyrna, the other for the Dardanelles.

Last night, 3rd August, another large Government transport, after taking about 500 infantry soldiers on board, with arms and baggage and other stores, left the harbour, and after taking on board its powder will, it is believed, proceed to San Giovanni-di-Medua, the port for Scutari in Albania.

A further transport has been loading with rockets for some days, and is [?] taking] a considerable force of artillery and a detachment of 100 cavalry.

Two more Government transports are taking on board stores, ammunition, &c.

In addition to above, four excellent Mahsoulieh steamers are at the disposal of the Government.

Including artillery and cavalry, horses will be embarked here.

Dervish Pasha commands the force, with four other Generals under him. They will probably leave in the "Izzedin" to-morrow or on Sunday for Salonica. The fleet will rendezvous either at Rhodes or at Moda Bay, Crete, according to present arrangements.

Abstract:—

Two large transports gone to Salonica.

One large transport to San Giovanni-di-Medua.

One transport to Dardanelles.

One transport to Smyrna.

Two large transports laden and ready to start.

Four smaller Mahsoulieh, which will take on board hay and other stores.

No movement among iron-clads.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 5, 3.30 P.M.)

(No. 298.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 5, 1882, 10.30 A.M.

UP to yesterday three large transports have started for Salonica and San Giovanni-di-Medua carrying military stores and about 1,500 soldiers to complete the eight battalions leaving those places for Alexandria. One troop of cavalry and four batteries of artillery, with 600 horses, will embark here and, along with transports carrying provisions and military stores for 5,000 men, will rendezvous at Rhodes or Crete to meet the troops from Salonica and Scutari. If no delay, these last might reach Rhodes in eight days. Salonica troops might arrive earlier. Dervish Pasha, with four or five other Generals, leave for Salonica Saturday or Sunday in "Izzedin."

Nordenfeldt guns are to be supplied at rate of twenty a-week.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 5, 3.30 P.M.)

(No. 299.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 5, 1882, 11 A.M.

YOUR telegram No. 487.

Captain Joliffe has been misinformed. I telegraphed last night to Admiral Seymour accurate information as to movements of Turkish troops, and will continue to do so, through Cartwright.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 489.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 5, 1882, 4.50 P.M.

WE will send you on Monday what we think should be the heads of Military Convention, the preparation of which requires some care. In the meanwhile, insist on the necessity for Military Convention, but do not initiate any discussion of details.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 466. Ext. 489.)
My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 5, 1882.

THE Military Convention referred to in my immediately preceding despatch is an instrument which requires great care in its preparation, but I shall be prepared to forward to your Excellency by telegraph on the 7th instant the heads of such an arrangement as Her Majesty's Government would be prepared to accept. In the meanwhile your Excellency should not initiate any discussion of details, but confine yourself to insisting on the necessity for a Military Convention.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 490.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 5, 1882, 5 P.M.

IN reply to a representation from Musurus Pasha as to hoisting of British flag at Suez, I have informed him that Admiral has hoisted Consular flag and Egyptian flag, that I believed this was regular, but would inquire further; and that Admiral would be instructed not to take any step which implied taking British possession of the place.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 467. Ext. 490.)
My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 5, 1882.

THE Turkish Ambassador has made a representation to me with regard to the hoisting of the British flag on the occasion of the occupation of Suez. I have informed his Excellency that the Rear-Admiral hoisted the Consular flag and the Egyptian flag which I believed was the regular and proper course, but that I would make further inquiries. I assured Musurus Pasha that Sir W. Hewett would be instructed not to take any step which implied taking British possession of the place.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 5, 5.15 P.M.)

(No. 175.)
(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 5, 1882, 3.25 P.M.

I HAVE communicated to M. de Freycinet, in the form of verbal notes, the text of your despatch No. 928 of the 3rd about instructions to Admiral at Port Saïd, and your despatch No. 929 of yesterday about M. de Lesseps.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 5.)

(No. 866. Ext. 175.)
My Lord,

Paris, August 5, 1882.

I HAD this morning the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch No. 928 of the day before yesterday, reciting the instructions to the Admirals respecting the Suez Canal given by Her Majesty's Government, in consequence of the proceedings in the French Chamber of Deputies on the 29th instant.

As I have already reported to your Lordship by telegraph, I have presented a verbal note containing the text of that despatch to M. de Freycinet, who still holds the office of Minister for Foreign Affairs, pending the appointment of his successor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 5.)

(No. 867. Further Ext. 175.)
My Lord,

Paris, August 5, 1882.

AS I have already had the honour to report to your Lordship by telegraph, I have this afternoon presented to M. de Freycinet a verbal note in the exact terms of your Lordship's despatch No. 929 of yesterday, respecting the proceedings of M. de Lesseps in Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 5.)

(Confidential.)

Admiralty, August 5, 1882.

MY Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have had under consideration your letter of the 2nd instant, requesting an opinion as to the payment of Suez Canal dues by ships of war engaged in patrolling the Canal.

In reply, my Lords desire me to request that you will state to Earl Granville that Her Majesty's ships engaged in patrolling the Canal were instructed to pay the Canal dues in order not to give any occasion for a disagreement with the authorities of the Canal Company. The time has probably arrived when the question of continuing to pay such dues in respect of the vessels engaged either in protecting the traffic of the Canal or in re-establishing the authority of the Khedive in Egypt, might be brought under the notice of the Canal Company, after consultation with the English Directors. It is, however, of importance that the co-operation of the establishments of the Company should be enlisted as far as possible in the arrangements for working the Canal which must be made when Her Majesty's forces proceed to Ismaïlia, and the question of dues seems to their Lordships to be secondary to this consideration.

It might be contended by the Company that the Canal affords facilities for the suppression of the rebellion which would otherwise be wanting, and that therefore either His Highness the Khedive or those assisting him may fairly be required to pay the customary dues, unless indeed there should be any provisions in the Concession which affect the question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

No. 148.

Lord Tenterden to Musurus Pasha.

Dear Musurus Pasha,

Foreign Office, August 5, 1882.

LORD GRANVILLE having been unable to see you to-day, has requested me to inform you that our Admiralty has received a telegram from Admiral Hewett, saying that he had hoisted the Consular flag and the Egyptian flag. Lord Granville believes this to be the regular course, but will make further inquiries. The Admiral will certainly be instructed not to take any step which implies taking British possession of the place.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 149.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 491.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 5, 1882, 7.50 P.M.

ARABI'S newspaper, "El Taieff," states that a telegram was received from the Porte congratulating the Egyptian soldiers for their courage during the bombardment, consequent upon the testimony of Dervish Pasha which was telegraphed.

You might turn this statement to account in your arguments for the Proclamation and Military Convention.

No. 150.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 468. Ext. 491.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 5, 1882.

THE "El Taieff," a newspaper published in the interest of Arabi Pasha, states that the Porte sent a telegram congratulating the Egyptian soldiers on their courage during the bombardment of the forts of Alexandria, as reported by telegraph by Dervish Pasha.

In the arguments which your Excellency will employ when pressing for the issue of the Proclamation and for the Military Convention this announcement of the "El Taieff" may be of use in impressing upon the Porte the necessity for those measures.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 151.

Consul-General Blunt to Earl Granville.—(Received August 5, 8 P.M.)

(No. 5.)

(Telegraphic.)

Salonica, August 5, 1882, 11 A.M.

TWO Turkish transport steamers arrived here yesterday evening, and are embarking the five battalions of infantry referred to in my telegram of the 3rd instant.

No. 152.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, 8 A.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 5, 1882, 11.35 P.M.

TWO transports with stores have left for Suda Bay; a third probably leaves this evening with stores and artillery.

One transport broke down on starting. Troops were transferred to "Kaiserli" which left for Medua* [sic] this morning.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs told me to-day that another detachment of 5,000 or 6,000 men would perhaps subsequently follow the force now about to be sent, but I have reason to think it will take some weeks to get it ready.

* ? Suda.

The Foreign Minister has promised to give me the information demanded as to the number and disposition of the troops.
(Repeated to Alexandria.)

No. 153.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, 8 A.M.)

(No. 302.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 5, 1882, 11.40 P.M.

I HAVE this day officially and formally acquainted the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in the presence of his colleague Assim, that unless the Sultan would issue a Proclamation of a satisfactory character, and unless the Turkish Government would consent to enter into a Military Convention with us, the Ottoman troops would not be allowed to disembark.

His Excellency gave me to understand that he was in favour of both measures, and that he fully understood the grave nature of the intimation conveyed to him.

In reference to the Convention, I observed that two corps d'armée, of different nationalities, could not be present in the same country except in one of two capacities—either as close friends or declared enemies; that no middle term was possible, and that on this account the Convention was necessary.

(Sent to Alexandria.)

No. 154.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 6.)

(No. 721. Confidential. Ext. 302.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 5, 1882.

I HAVE this day officially and formally acquainted the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in the presence of his colleague, Assim Pasha, that unless the Sultan issued a Proclamation of a satisfactory character, and unless the Ottoman Government consented to conclude a Military Convention with us, the Turkish troops would not be allowed to disembark.

His Excellency gave me to understand that he was in favour of both measures, and that he fully understood the grave nature of the intimation conveyed to him.

In reference to the Convention, I observed that two corps d'armée of different nationalities could not be present in the same country except in one of two capacities, either as close friends or declared enemies; that no middle course was possible; and that, on that account, the Military Convention was necessary.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 155.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, 8 A.M.)

(No. 303.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 5, 1882, 11.45 P.M.

WITH reference to Military Convention, perhaps your Lordship will kindly telegraph me your instructions. I presume its leading features will be settled here, and that the subsidiary Convention will be agreed upon by the Military Commanders in Egypt. In any event, I should hope that the text will be drawn up in London, as I do not feel competent to frame such a document.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 6.)

(No. 722. Confidential. Ext. 303.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 5, 1882.

I SHOULD be glad if your Lordship would kindly telegraph to me your instructions with regard to the Military Convention. I presume that its leading features will be settled here, and that the subsidiary Convention will be agreed upon by the Military Commanders in Egypt. In any event, I hope that the text may be drawn up in London.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, 8 A.M.)

(No. 304.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 5, 1882, 11.40 P.M.

THE following is a translation of the identic telegram which the Representatives of the Great Powers decided to send to their respective Governments at the thirteenth meeting of the Conference, held to-day:—

"The proposition of the Italian Ambassador relative to the protection of the Suez Canal was brought forward for discussion at the commencement of our thirteenth meeting.

"The English Ambassador said that he had no positive instructions, but that he did not reject the proposition.

"The French Ambassador also reserved his opinion.

"At the demand of the Ottoman Delegates, the words 'having a provisional character' were added to the text of our preceding telegram. They are to follow the word 'supervision.' The English Ambassador renewed his pressing demands ('instances') with a view to obtaining a Proclamation from the Sultan declaring Arabi in a state of rebellion.

"He complained that the Ottoman authorities in the provinces led the population to believe the Ottoman troops sent to Egypt had for their mission the expulsion of strangers and the Khedive.

"The Ottoman Delegates not having brought the declaration in writing of their categorical acceptance of the identic note of the 15th July, which was promised for to-day's meeting, the English Ambassador stated it was his duty, although he had no instructions with regard to this point, to declare to the Ottoman Delegates that the delays and hesitation which the Government of the Sultan chose to interpose before giving ('mettait à donner') a definite answer to the note, ran the risk of being interpreted by Her Majesty's Government as a refusal to accept it.

"In his answer Saïd Pasha engaged to give to-morrow or the day after the acceptance in writing."

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 6.)

(No. 723. Confidential. Ext. 304.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 5, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of the identic telegram we agreed to send to our respective Governments after the thirteenth meeting of the Egyptian Conference.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

* See No. 157.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, 8 A.M.)

(No. 305.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 5, 1882, 11.40 P.M.

AT the Conference to-day the Ottoman Commissioners distinctly renewed their pledges that no troops should leave for Egypt except after an understanding had been arrived at on the subject with the Conference. The troops which had left Constantinople, their Excellencies said, were recruits who were being transferred to Salonica, whither the transports had now gone.

(Sent to Alexandria.)

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 6.)

(No. 724. Confidential. Ext. 305.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 5, 1882.

AT the Conference to-day, the Ottoman Commissioners distinctly renewed their pledges that no troops should leave for Egypt except after an understanding had been arrived at on the subject with the Conference. The troops which had left Constantinople, their Excellencies said, were recruits, who were being transferred to Salonica, whither the transports had now gone.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, noon.)

(No. 306.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 5, 1882, 11.45 P.M.

WITH reference to Count Corti's proposition in regard to the Canal, I stated at the Conference to-day that, although Her Majesty's Government were not desirous of opposing it, I was not quite clear, in consequence of an accidental ambiguity in the answer to my telegram, as to what my instructions were on the subject. I added that I should also be glad to have a clearer acquaintance with the way in which the proposed principle of a purely maritime police was to be applied, as it seemed very doubtful whether the patrol of gun-boats would be sufficient to secure the Canal, the maintenance and working of which was dependent on supplies of fresh water drawn from the interior of the country.

The French Ambassador held the same language, and expressed himself all the less able to pronounce an opinion, as the political situation of his Government was still undecided.

I further stated, in any event, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, any arrangements for securing the Canal should be provisional.

This principle was also insisted upon by the Turkish Commissioners, who adhered to Count Corti's proposition.

I conclude from your Lordship's telegram No. 477 that Count Corti [will be ready*] eventually to acquiesce in it.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 6.)

(No. 725. Confidential. Ext. 306.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 5, 1882.

WITH reference to Count Corti's proposition in regard to the Canal, I stated at the meeting of the Conference to-day that, although Her Majesty's Government were

* Groups appear to be omitted.

not desirous of opposing it, I was not quite clear, owing to an accidental ambiguity in the answer to my telegram, as to what my instructions were on the subject. I added that I should also be glad to have a clearer acquaintance with the way in which the proposed principle of a purely maritime police was to be applied, as it seemed very doubtful whether a patrol of gun-boats would be sufficient to secure the Canal, the maintenance and working of which was dependent upon supplies of fresh water drawn from the interior of the country.

M. de Noailles held the same language, and expressed himself the less able to pronounce an opinion, as the political situation of his Government was still undecided.

I further stated that, in any event, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, any arrangements for securing the Canal should be provisional. This principle was also insisted on by the Ottoman Commissioners, who adhered to the proposal of Count Corti.

I conclude, from your Lordship's telegram No. 477 of the 3rd instant, that I am eventually to acquiesce in it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 163.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, noon.)

(No. 307.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 5, 1882, 11.50 P.M.

I BEG to call your Lordship's attention to the remark I made at the end of to-day's sitting, as recorded in the identic telegram, which I hope will meet with your Lordship's approval.

No. 164.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 6.)

(No. 726. Confidential. Ext. 307.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 5, 1882.

I WOULD beg to draw your Lordship's attention to the remark I made at the close of this day's Conference with regard to the delay of the Sublime Porte in giving a definite answer to the identic note of the 15th July, as reported in my despatch No. 723 of this day's date. I hope that it will meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 165.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, noon.)

(No. 308. Confidential.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 5, 1882, 11.55 P.M.

I SOUNDED the French Ambassador to-day about the Military Convention, observing that I thought I was right in insisting on it. He said that he thought I was.

My informant as to the opposition of the French Embassy to the Convention was no less a person than the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who is well-disposed towards us.

Please consider the foregoing as very confidential.

No. 166.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 6.)

(No. 727. Very Confidential. Ext. 308.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 5, 1882.

IN sounding the French Ambassador to-day about the Military Convention, I observed to his Excellency that I thought I was right in insisting upon it. He replied that he agreed with me.

I was informed of the opposition of the French Embassy to the Convention by no less a person than the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who is well-disposed towards us.

I trust that your Lordship will consider this despatch as strictly confidential.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 167.

Consul-General Blunt to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, noon.)

(No. 6.)

(Telegraphic.)

Salonica, August 5, 1882, 11 P.M.

WITH reference to my telegram of this morning, the two transport-steamers are just leaving this port, having embarked 3,110 men, 200 baggage-horses, and a considerable quantity of small-arms ammunition; Major-General Osman Pasha is in command. The two transports are, I am told, to rendezvous at Crete instead of the Dardanelles.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 168.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, 10 P.M.)

(No. 309.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 6, 1882, 3 P.M.

I HEAR there is a conspiracy to murder the Khedive. My authority is not very good, but I do not like to neglect the warning. I can learn no particulars.

(Sent to Cartwright.)

No. 169.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 6.)

(No. 728. Confidential. Ext. 309.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 6, 1882.

I HEAR that there is a conspiracy to murder the Khedive. My authority is not very good, but I do not like to neglect the warning, though I can learn no particulars.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 170.

Vice-Consul Maling to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, 10 P.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Dardanelles, August 6, 1882, 6.50 P.M.

ON the 3rd of this month two Turkish steam-transports passed this port, bound to Salonica, for the purpose of embarking soldiers thence for Alexandria.

No. 171.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, 10 P.M.)

(No. 384.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 6, 1882, 8 P.M.

MY telegram No. 383.

There has been a misapprehension about the cable via Port Saïd to Suez. Khedive's leave to land it has been obtained, as reported. The further concessions embodied in your Lordship's telegram No. 396 of the 3rd instant will be got to-morrow.

No. 172.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 6.)

(No. 516. Ext. 384.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 6, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 514 of the 4th instant, I regret to state that there has been some misapprehension respecting the telegraph cable proposed to be laid from Alexandria to Suez, via Port Saïd.

The Khedive's leave to land the cable at Port Saïd has been obtained, as reported in my above-mentioned despatch; and I hope to obtain to-morrow the further Concession referred to in your Lordship's telegram of the 3rd instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

No. 173.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, 10 P.M.)

(No. 93.)

(Telegraphic.)

Rome, August 6, 1882, 6:45 P.M.

M. MANCINI informed me to-day that Russian Chargé d'Affaires had been to ask his views as to English occupation of Suez, to which he had replied that he knew nothing of it officially. His Excellency then asked me if I could explain it, and also why the Italian proposal about the Suez Canal had not been accepted by Her Majesty's Government.

I answered that I was without official information on either point, but that I presumed occupation of Suez was to insure safety of our Indian troops, and that the hesitation respecting the Italian Canal proposal was probably because it would bind the Powers who agreed to it not to employ any but naval forces without previous agreement, for which there might not be time.

No. 174.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 6, 10 P.M.)

(No. 94. Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

Rome, August 6, 1882, 6:45 P.M.

I ASKED the Minister for Foreign Affairs to-day, as from myself, whether, in view of Turkish procrastination, he did not think that it was time the Conference closed. His Excellency gave no direct reply, saying only he hoped to-day or to-morrow the Porte's answer would be given. He alluded to secret negotiations which he heard were going on between Lord Dufferin and the Porte. I said that I knew nothing, but that it would not be strange if Lord Dufferin were trying to persuade the Porte to act in good faith.

No. 175.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 6.)

(No. 327. Secret. Ext. 94.)

My Lord,

Rome, August 6, 1882.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 476, Secret, to Lord Dufferin, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I took an opportunity in my conversation with M. Mancini to-day of asking, as an idea of my own, whether, in view of Turkish procrastination and evasion, he did not think it was high time that the Conference should come to an end. His Excellency did not give me any direct answer to this question, merely observing that he hoped the Porte's reply as to the full acceptance of the note of the 15th July and other conditions would be given to-day or to-morrow.

His Excellency made some allusion to secret negotiations, which he had heard were going on between Lord Dufferin and the Porte, of which the Conference was not to be informed.

I said I knew nothing whatever about them, but that I thought there would not be anything strange in Lord Dufferin trying to persuade the Porte to act in good faith.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 176.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 667.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, July 29, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 658 of the 28th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a semi-official note I have addressed to the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs, calling the attention of his Excellency to the views expressed by the "Vakit" with regard to the proposed despatch of Ottoman troops to Egypt and the prejudicial effect such articles might have on public opinion in Europe.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 176.

The Earl of Dufferin to Saïd Pasha.

My dear Saïd Pasha,

Therapia, July 28, 1882.

I BEG to call your Excellency's attention to the accompanying translation of an article from the "Vakit." The tendency of this article is to make it appear that the object of the proposed dispatch of Turkish troops to Egypt is to deliver the Egyptian people from the tyranny and violence of foreigners, and not, as the Porte has alleged by its partial acceptance of the identic note of the Powers, to subdue a usurping military faction.

I am aware that the "Vakit" cannot fairly be regarded as an exponent of the views of the Ottoman Government. On the other hand, as a very severe censorship is exercised over the press of Constantinople, as I have had occasion to remark from the fact of the newspaper which I take in having been suppressed twice within the year on somewhat trivial pretexts, I think it right to warn your Excellency that such articles as those to which I am now calling your attention are calculated to have a prejudicial effect upon European public opinion, and may raise doubts as to the real intentions of the Porte in reference to the settlement of the Egyptian question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 177.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 672.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, July 30, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 596 of the 13th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a despatch I have received from Mr. Vice-Consul Dickson, reporting on the state of affairs in Damascus, with reference to passing events in Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 177.

Vice-Consul Dickson to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord,

Damascus, July 14, 1882.

YESTERDAY I had the honour to receive your Excellency's telegram of the previous day, informing me that, in consequence of the action of the Military party at Alexandria, the fortress of that town had been shelled by the British fleet, that a good understanding exists with the Porte, and that no further hostilities are apprehended.

With reference to my despatch of the 30th ultimo, I shall venture to offer your Excellency a few remarks on the state of affairs in Damascus during the last few days.

Although considerable curiosity has been evinced on the part of all classes as to the nature of the events that have been passing in Egypt, quiet continues to reign in this place, and the conduct of the Moslems has been satisfactory. The authorities have been zealous in looking after the public tranquillity, and in showing a disposition to suppress immediately anything of the nature of street quarrels. There is no doubt, however, that amongst a few persons, principally Moslems, there has been a tendency to adopt the ideas of the National party in Egypt, and lately a suspicion has arisen that emissaries of that party have been sent to Damascus, and other parts of Syria and Palestine to propagate its sentiments. The object of the secret Agents, it is said, is to upset the existing Government, and to accomplish this end they would begin by aiming a blow at the military authorities, especially if circumstances should cause a diminution of troops in the province. The authorities have been carefully endeavouring to discover these Agents, and seek to prevent the assembling together of any number of persons having the appearance of a meeting. A certain Sheikh, named Mohoueddin-el-Nabhany-el-Hamouy, arrived a few days ago from Egypt, and is celebrated for his eloquence and the position he holds as a public orator. He is understood to belong to the Egyptian National party, and on the 11th instant was suddenly arrested by the police and imprisoned, in obedience to orders, it is stated, from Constantinople. It is certain that the object of the authorities in Syria is to crush out at once any patriotic sentiments that might exist amongst the people.

The news of the destruction of the forts at Alexandria is now being spread throughout the country, as private information regarding this event is daily arriving from Egypt; but it has produced no feeling, apparently, of dissatisfaction, as the idea seems to prevail, from the behaviour of the authorities who are careful to express no opinions on the matter, that this action has been carried out with the approval of the Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN DICKSON.

No. 178.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 674.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, July 30, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 595 of the 13th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a despatch I have received from Mr. Consul-General Eldridge with reference to the arrival at Beyrout of refugees from Egypt and the state of Syria in general.

I have from time to time furnished Mr. Eldridge and the other principal British Consular officers in the Empire with telegraphic information of passing events in Egypt, which, as your Lordship will perceive, has had a satisfactory effect in Syria.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 178.

Consul-General Eldridge to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord,

Aleih, Mount Lebanon, July 16, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 2nd instant, reporting on the effect produced in Syria by the events in Egypt, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the ordinary as well as specially chartered steamers and sailing-ves-sels continue to arrive from Alexandria and Port Saïd crowded with fugitives, of whom it is now estimated that about 12,000 have been landed at Beyrout.

On their arrival they are still the object of the same consideration and good treatment as reported in my above-mentioned despatch, in which I omitted to mention that the Custom-house officials show great leniency towards them by simply taking their names as they land, and, as a general rule, allowing their effects to pass without examination.

It is, however, a subject of regret that some amongst these refugees do not appear to be worthy of, or able to appreciate, the kindness shown them, as they not unfrequently abuse and pick quarrels with the inhabitants, especially with the small Mussulman shop-keepers; this ill-judged conduct on their part may lead to disputes and street brawls, especially during Ramazan, which is now commencing, though the authorities of Beyrout appear to display great vigilance by means of patrols in trying to prevent anything of the kind from occurring, and the inhabitants show no disposition to create disturbances.

The same may be said, so far as my information goes, of the other parts of Syria, though attempts have been made to excite the Mussulman population in favour of the policy pursued by Arabi Pasha, and to create a sort of "National party" in Syria; but these attempts have been promptly suppressed by the friends of order and by the authorities.

On the 13th instant I had the honour to receive your Lordship's telegram, informing me of the shelling of the works erected at Alexandria against the English fleet, rumours of which event had already begun to circulate in Syria, with various comments as to its probable cause and ultimate result. As all classes appeared to be much excited, I, in exercise of my own discretion, transmitted by telegraph the substance of your telegram to the Vice-Consuls on the coast, from some of whom I have received, through the same means, replies informing me that my communication had produced an excellent effect, especially that part of it which announced that there was no probability that hostilities would be continued, and that our relations with the Ottoman Government were satisfactory.

The public mind is naturally much excited by these events, and speculation is rife as to what is to follow, as the intelligence we receive is vague, uncertain, and often contradictory. I shall therefore feel obliged if you will inform me by telegraph of any important event which may occur, in order to enable me to contradict false or exaggerated rumours that may be circulated by interested parties for their own purposes.

On the whole, I do not consider that the state of Syria at present need cause any alarm, though it is impossible to forecast the future; and I still think it advisable that a small ship of war should be stationed on this coast, for reasons which I have already explained in previous despatches.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. JACKSON ELDRIDGE.

No. 179.

Mr. Fane to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 83.)

My Lord,

La Granja, July 31, 1882.

A REPORT that the Spanish Government were inclined to intervene in Egypt by sending thither a force of 25,000 men was published a few days ago in the "Liberal,"

one of the leading Madrid newspapers, and has since been reproduced in other papers. I have not thought it necessary to allude to this in talking with the Marquis de la Vega de Armijo, but his Excellency has told one of my foreign colleagues that there is no foundation for the rumour in question. Three ships of war, however, the "Lealtad," the "Concordia," and the "Maria de Molina," have been selected to proceed to Egyptian waters to join the "Carmen" and "Zaragossa" in watching over Spanish interests.

The Egyptian question causes great interest here, and there is manifested a strong feeling that Spain, having considerable possessions in Oceania, as well as being a Mediterranean Power, should claim to be consulted in regard to any line of action affecting either the Suez Canal or the general future of Egypt. This feeling reveals itself in the press, which occupies itself at present nearly exclusively with the events that are passing in Egypt, and the newspapers, almost without exception, display a tone of unfriendliness towards Her Majesty's Government, whom they suspect of preventing the admission of Spain into the counsels of Europe, which they suppose other Powers, especially Germany, would, but for the objections of Her Majesty's Government, willingly agree to. As for the Government, they feel, no doubt, that in the present low condition of their Treasury and navy, it would be imprudent to engage themselves in any serious foreign undertaking, such as might be necessitated were they to assert too strongly their pretension to intervene in the affairs of Egypt, although this feeling would not, perhaps, prevent their being greatly gratified by receiving an invitation to share in the measures that are being taken to restore order in that country. Meanwhile, they hope to lull the increasing fretfulness which the public evince at the insignificant part played by Spain in the question of the day, by such means as sending some ships of war to Port Saïd, giving out that they have invited Portugal and Holland to a joint action with them on the matter, and, lastly, addressing a Circular despatch to their Representatives abroad stating the claims of Spain to share in the settlement of Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDMUND FANE.

No. 180.

Sir E. Thornton to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 249.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, August 2, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an article from the "Journal de St. Petersburg" of the 30th ultimo, relating to the military expedition to Egypt projected by Great Britain.* It alludes more particularly to the embarrassing position in which England would find herself if the Sultan should also send troops to that country, either in his character as its Sovereign or as the mandatory of Europe. It suggests that the difficulties which might arise from this state of things might produce the most serious complications.

It is the most discouraging article which has yet appeared in the "Journal" with regard to our action in Egypt, and negatively it is the more so, because it inserts an article from the "National Zeitung," not very favourable to our cause. It is supposed that Baron Jomini writes, or at least inspires, the articles in the "Journal."

The Russian newspapers generally, with the exception of the "Golos," which alone appears to believe in our honesty and disinterestedness, are decidedly hostile to us, and assert that the expedition we are sending has for its sole object to take permanent possession of Egypt. But I do not consider that this opinion is at all shared by the Russian Government, and least of all by M. de Giers; and I believe that although the measures taken by Great Britain may not be entirely agreeable to His Imperial Majesty, no active opposition to them will be made by the Russian Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. THORNTON.

* Not printed.

No. 181.

Sir E. Thornton to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 250.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, August 3, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith an extract from to-day's "Journal de St. Pétersbourg," giving the reasons for the recent abstention of the Russian Representative at Constantinople. They are, more or less, the same as those already stated to me by M. de Giers, and reported to your Lordship, and the article has no doubt been inspired by the Russian Foreign Office. The fact of my having yesterday seen the editor of the above paper at the Foreign Office in conversation with M. de Giers and Baron Jomini strengthens my belief.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. THORNTON.

Inclosure in No. 181.

Extract from the "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" of 22 Juillet 3 Août, 1882.

LES journaux étrangers se livrent à des commentaires sans limites sur l'abstention du Chargé d'Affaires de Russie lors d'une des dernières réunions de la Conférence à Constantinople.

Il nous semble qu'on cherche bien loin l'explication d'un fait assez simple. En l'absence d'un programme nettement défini sur l'action du concert Européen, les délibérations de la Conférence étaient nécessairement condamnées à rester stériles. Il est difficile de concevoir ce que la dignité de l'Europe, et en particulier celle de chacune des Puissances représentées à la Conférence, pouvaient avoir à gagner à jouer un semblable rôle. Il est naturel que dans ces circonstances il ait été jugé préférable d'attendre pour délibérer en Conférence qu'on se trouvât en présence d'une situation plus nette et mieux définie. Cela expliquerait l'instruction donnée au Chargé d'Affaires de Russie de s'abstenir jusqu'à nouvel ordre. Depuis lors, nous apprenons que l'échange d'idées entre les Cabinets a fait constater la nécessité d'une entente immédiate en vue de la protection du Canal de Suez, et qu'il a été en conséquence prescrit au Chargé d'Affaires de Russie de s'associer aux délibérations de ses collègues sur cette question urgente.

En outre, il nous revient que les Gouvernements ont été saisis d'une proposition du Cabinet Anglais, qui a pour but de poser avec précision les principes de l'action militaire éventuelle à exercer en Égypte. Cette ouverture étant de nature à servir de base pratique aux délibérations de la Conférence, il ne nous paraît pas douteux que le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie sera autorisé à y prendre part.

Le Gouvernement Russe a toujours insisté sur le maintien du concert Européen. Il le veut sérieux, pratique, efficace. Dans ces conditions on peut affirmer qu'il ne déclinera jamais la part qui revient à la Russie comme grande Puissance Européenne.

No. 182.

Mr. Adams to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 57.)

My Lord,

Berne, August 2, 1882.

ALLUSIONS have from time to time appeared in the Swiss journals to a report current in the English newspapers that a certain M. Ninet, a Swiss citizen, is present in the camp, and enjoys the confidence of Arabi Pasha.

To-day's "Journal de Genève" contains a paragraph, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy,* giving some details with regard to this individual's antecedents, and stating that a correspondence is reported by the "Standard" to have been seized at Alexandria, which would appear to have been carried on by his means, and which contains evidence to the effect that the Military party in Egypt had been secretly supported by the French Agents.

The article goes on to suggest that M. Ninet may well be the author of various

* Not printed.

mysterious communications dated from Ismaïlia, which have been published by the "Agence Havas."

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. O. ADAMS.

No. 183.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 398. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 4, 1882.

IN a conversation which I have just had with Count Kálnoky his Excellency again expressed his earnest wish that Her Majesty's Government should come to an understanding with the Porte with reference to the operations to be undertaken in Egypt.

He was continuing to do his utmost at Constantinople to bring this about, but he must frankly say that he did not think Her Majesty's Government had been altogether happy in their way of dealing with the Sultan.

On the 15th July the Conference, in the name of Europe, invited His Majesty, as Sovereign of Egypt, to send his troops to restore order, but when he had accepted the invitation he was told that Her Majesty's Government would accept the "co-operation" of any Power, including Turkey, while conditions which were not asked from any of the others were required from the Sovereign Power alone.

I observed that those conditions were unnecessary as regarded any other Government, but were indispensable if there was to be a Turkish intervention, as there had been enough that was suspicious in the relations of the Sultan and Arabi Pasha to justify Her Majesty's Government in requiring that the latter should be proclaimed a rebel before any action by Turkish troops could be permitted in Egypt.

An engagement on the part of the Sultan that the reorganization of the Egyptian army should not be arranged between His Majesty and the Khedive without a European control was, I said, not less indispensable, for otherwise we should see the Egyptian army become practically a Turkish force, and Egypt reduced nearly to the position of an ordinary Pashalic.

Count Kálnoky answered that, as regarded the proclamation of Arabi as a rebel, he thought that we were right; but, while fully admitting that Turkey must not be allowed to constitute the new Egyptian army as she chose, he thought that it had been imprudent to insist upon her giving the required engagement at the present moment.

It would, in his opinion, have been better to leave this matter to be settled when the time for it arrived.

He looks with the utmost alarm to the possibility of Her Majesty's Government having to oppose by force the landing of Turkish troops, as he believes that it would give the operation that we may have to carry out in Egypt the character of a war between Christians and Mussulmans, of which no one can foresee the consequences.

Count Kálnoky showed throughout this conversation a perfectly friendly disposition towards Her Majesty's Government, recognizing the difficulty of their position, which he considers would never have become so great if on many occasions they had not felt obliged to abandon the course they wished to take out of deference to the French Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 184.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

E

(No. 401. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 4, 1882.

IN speaking to-day of the difficulties which Her Majesty's Government would find in acting with the Turks in Egypt, Count Kálnoky alluded to the very strong feeling of the Sultan against Tewfik Pasha.

I said that the support of Tewfik Pasha was a matter which admitted of no compromise on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

In the first place, we believed him to be more desirable as a Khedive than Halim Pasha, and in the next place, we were bound in honour to stand by him.

Count Kálnoky observed that, without having a very high opinion of the qualifications of Tewfik, he had a very low one of Halim, and he had no wish to see him the Ruler of Egypt; but we must remember that in the eyes of the Mahomedan world he was the legitimate Khedive, in spite of the Firman of Abdul Aziz which altered the order of succession.

He thought the Sultan would do all in his power to substitute him for Tewfik.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 185.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 304.)

My Lord,

Berlin, August 4, 1882.

ON the receipt of your Lordship's telegram No. 272 of yesterday, I called upon the Minister for Foreign Affairs and explained to his Excellency the circumstance which had led to the stoppage by the International Office at Berne of cyphered telegrams passing to and from Alexandria.

Count Hatzfeldt begged me to thank your Lordship for the steps you had been so good as to take with a view to obtain a solution of the difficulty which he had brought to my notice as regards his telegrams to the German Representative at Alexandria.

He felt sure, he said, before seeing me, that your Lordship's efforts had been successful, as he had that morning received from Baron Saurma a telegram in cypher.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 186.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 305. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Berlin, August 4, 1882.

BEFORE reading in the Confidential print, which I received by yesterday's messenger, your Lordship's telegram to the Earl of Dufferin No. 456 of the 29th ultimo, I had stated, whenever the leading article in the "Times" of the 26th July was alluded to in my hearing, that the views expressed in it must be taken as simply representing the views of the journal itself, and in no way those of Her Majesty's Government.

As, however, the article in question has not been allowed to pass unnoticed by the German press, and has caused no inconsiderable sensation here, I ventured, after seeing your Lordship's telegram, to mention to Count Hatzfeldt, when I was with his Excellency this afternoon, that I was authorized to say, although I felt it was scarcely necessary for me to do so, that the policy indicated by the "Times" article was not the policy of Her Majesty's Government.

Count Hatzfeldt assured me that the German Government had not for a moment supposed that it did represent the views of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 187.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 307.)

My Lord,

Berlin, August 5, 1882.

THE Confidential print (Egypt, 15th July, Section 5) contains the extender of your Lordship's telegram to Her Majesty's Embassy of the same date, stating that, in consequence of a request made by the German Government, instructions had been sent to the British Admiral at Port Saïd recommending to his good offices the German Consul and a large number of his countrymen who had left Cairo for the above port.

On the receipt of your Lordship's telegram I at once acquainted Count Hatzfeldt

with the steps which had been taken by Her Majesty's Government, and his Excellency, while expressing his sincere thanks for the kind manner in which your Lordship had acceded to the request of the German Government, told me that the Ambassador in London had already communicated the fact to him, and that he had at once instructed Count Münster to say how cordially the German Government appreciated your Lordship's offer of assistance.

Under these circumstances, I did not think it necessary at the time to refer to the subject in a despatch.

Should, however, the Extender of your Lordship's telegram happen to be included later on in any papers submitted to Parliament without some document to show that the German Government had fully recognized the readiness with which their request had been complied with, it might lead to the supposition that there had not been any such acknowledgment on their part.

I therefore take the liberty on the present occasion to make good the omission on my part to inform your Lordship of what Count Hatzfeldt had said to me on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 188.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

E
(No. 308. Very Confidential.)
My Lord,

Berlin, August 5, 1882.

SINCE I had the honour of reporting to your Lordship by the previous messenger the result of my conversation with Count Hatzfeldt on the subject of the situation in Egypt, I have availed myself on several occasions of his Excellency's kind permission to call upon him whenever I wished it, independently of his usual day for receiving foreign Representatives.

In doing so I had no special reason for imagining that Count Hatzfeldt would, as regards Germany's policy, be likely to tell me anything new; but as I was aware that the several Ambassadors here were almost daily with his Excellency, I thought that in consequence of what I knew to be authentic information from the official telegrams I have received, I could in case of necessity contradict any statements that might be made to him calculated to give a false impression as to the policy of Her Majesty's Government in respect of the Egyptian question.

The local press was continually hinting at the possibility of England acting outside the Conference, and independently of the Powers with whom she was supposed to be in concert, and I was by no means certain that these public indications of a disbelief in the disinterested action of England would be confined to the press.

When talking to Count Hatzfeldt, whom I knew very well before I came to Berlin, I have never seen any sign of unfriendly feeling towards England, or of disapproval as regards her Egyptian policy. Hitherto, and while England and France were playing the principal part in Egypt, Prince Bismarck and successive Foreign Ministers, including Count Hatzfeldt, have invariably allowed that English and French interests there were far superior to those of any other Power. Whether, looking to the recent disinclination of France to go as far as England in the steps to be taken for restoring the *status quo* in Egypt, and in view of her inability to act with England at all at the present moment, Germany will be content, as formerly, to listen and not to suggest, I am not prepared to say. My impression is that if Prince Bismarck is found to be more willing than formerly to initiate any idea for the solution of existing difficulties, rather than to let others do so, the change will be due, not to any intention of thwarting or opposing the policy of Her Majesty's Government, and of favouring other Powers, but in order that, by offering a suggestion in time, the Egyptian question may not assume proportions which might implicate Germany.

I do not for a moment pretend to assert that Prince Bismarck would go out of his way to prejudice his own position at Constantinople by supporting England openly in carrying out measures which might be disagreeable to the Sultan or might create jealousy amongst the other Powers; but, so long as the Chancellor can keep up the character of a disinterested neutral, he will certainly not do anything to injure England if he can help it.

There can, I imagine, be little doubt that great pressure has been, and is being, put

upon Prince Bismarck by other Powers to support a line of policy which would in future give those Powers an equal share with England and France in the control and administration of matters connected with Egypt; and the suggestion recently submitted by the Chancellor to the English and French Governments, that all the Great Powers should henceforward be held responsible for the protection of the Suez Canal, is, in all probability, the result of that pressure, and did not originate with Prince Bismarck. Such a plan was already foreshadowed in the Russian Circular a copy of which was inclosed in your Lordship's despatch No. 283 of the 7th ultimo; and there can be no question that both Austria and Italy would only too gladly see any plan carried out which would enable them to take a more leading part in directing the future of Egypt.

Since the establishment in Egypt of the Anglo-French Control, Austria and Italy, especially the latter Power, have felt themselves aggrieved at their exclusion from direct participation in it; not so Germany; and it is not to be wondered at, therefore, that they should consider the present moment a favourable one for pressing their claims urgently, or that Prince Bismarck, without in any way wishing to side with them against England, should have consented to propose for the consideration of England and France a policy which, while not being actually opposed in theory to the views and wishes of those two Powers with regard to the future security of Egypt and the Suez Canal, would allow of the other Powers having a more prominent share in insuring that security.

I know that, in some quarters, it is believed that the plan for placing the Suez Canal under the joint protection of all the Powers was Prince Bismarck's own idea, and that the acceptance of Italy was obtained by the promise that she would thereby secure the position in Egypt which she coveted. I think it far more probable that Prince Bismarck's suggestion did not emanate from himself, but was the result of the pressure brought to bear upon him by the other Powers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 189.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 864.)
My Lord,

Paris, August 5, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship, extracted from the "Journal Officiel" of this day, the announcement of the appointment of M. de Vorges as French Agent and Consul-General in Egypt, in the room of Sienkiewicz, who is transferred as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Chile.

M. de Vorges' former post as French Minister in Peru is to be filled by M. de Tallenay, French Consul-General and Chargé d'Affaires at Caracas.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 189.

Extract from the "Journal Officiel" of August 5, 1882.

PAR Décret du Président de la République, en date du 29 Juillet, 1882, rendu sur la proposition du Président du Conseil, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères,
M. Domet de Vorges (Edmond Charles Eugène) Ministre Plenipotentiaire de Première Classe, a été chargé de l'Agence et Consulat-Général de France en Égypte, en remplacement de M. Sienkiewicz.

M. Sienkiewicz (Joseph Adam), Agent et Consul-Général de France en Égypte, a été nommé Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plenipotentiaire de la République Française au Chili, en remplacement de M. le Baron d'Avril, admis à faire valoir ses droits à la retraite.

M. de Tallenay (Henry), Consul-Général et Chargé d'Affaires de France à Caracas, a été nommé Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plenipotentiaire de la République Française au Pérou, en remplacement de M. Domet de Vorges.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 21. Confidential.)

My Lord,

London, August 7, 1882.

IN obedience to your Lordship's instructions conveyed in Lord Tenterden's letter of the 4th instant, desiring us to state our opinion on the arrangements which it might be advisable to make for the regulation of the traffic through the Suez Canal during the landing of British troops, and as to the mode of approaching the Suez Canal Company on the subject, we have the honour to report as follows:—

At the interview which we held on the 28th ultimo with Captain Rawson, and of which he gives an accurate account in his despatch to Lord Northbrook of that date, it was assumed that the "Orient" and two other transports would, in the first instance, land a certain force at Ismaïlia, and would be followed probably a fortnight afterwards by at least thirty transports conveying the bulk of the expeditionary force to the same destination. It was in respect of this last-mentioned operation that we were invited to consider what steps should be taken for stopping the regular traffic while the transports were passing through the Canal from Port Saïd to Lake Timsah.

We stated to Captain Rawson that, in our opinion, it would be unwise to make any communication to the Suez Canal Company indicating the time, place, or mode of disembarking the troops until the latest moment possible. The information would not be kept secret, and M. de Lesseps would no doubt make it the pretext for further protests and opposition. We also suggested that it would be advisable that recourse should be had to the good offices of the French Government, who might be requested to exercise their influence over M. de Lesseps to persuade him to accept such a temporary interruption of the traffic rather than that the communication should be made to him only by the British Government Directors.

We beg leave to submit that this course should be adopted, and that as soon as the transports containing the advanced brigade are within twenty-four hours' sail of Port Saïd the French Minister for Foreign Affairs should be requested, as an act of friendliness to Her Majesty's Government in the pursuance of a political object in which both Governments have a common interest, to support the application which Her Majesty's Government would simultaneously instruct the British Directors to make to M. de Lesseps and his Council of Administration.

We are by no means sure that M. de Lesseps' acquiescence is to be counted upon, even if it is solicited by his own Government; but, at least, the latter might induce him to refrain from any violent act of opposition, such as he has more than once threatened.

The request to M. de Lesseps should be—that he should give such directions to the officials of the Company at the stations along the Canal as will keep the section between Lake Timsah and Port Saïd clear of all ordinary traffic from such an hour, and for so long a period, as may be intimated to him by the English Admiral. He should be assured that the transit of the transports will be effected with the utmost expedition, and that it is hoped that the period of the interruption will not exceed twelve hours; and it should be declared that Her Majesty's Government will hold the Canal Company harmless against any claims for delay which may be preferred by ship-owners or others.

In the event of M. de Lesseps declining, as is probable, to give any such instructions, we can only submit that the English naval authorities in the Canal and at its approaches must take upon themselves the duty of stopping vessels from entering the Canal at Port Saïd and at Suez, from leaving Lake Timsah in the direction of Port Saïd, and for clearing the section between Ismaïlia and Port Saïd.

We have the honour to suggest that, in the event of the latter course becoming necessary, the British naval authorities in the Canal should be directed, nevertheless, to treat the Canal Company's officials with every possible consideration and forbearance.

In conclusion, we venture to ask whether, without waiting for the occurrence of the particular circumstance to which we have been referred, and without, for the present, alluding to it, it might not be advisable at once to seek to obtain from the French Government that they should attempt to restrain M. de Lesseps from continuing his present violent proceedings, leaving the question of the neutrality of the Canal to be dealt with by the Powers, as a political matter outside and beyond the scope of the purely commercial Company of which he is the founder, the financial interests of which are in no way compromised by the action of Her Majesty's Government.

We have, &c.

(Signed) J. STOKES.
C. RIVERS WILSON.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 22.)

My Lord,

London, August 7, 1882.

ON Friday evening last we received telegrams from the Suez Canal Company notifying that an extraordinary meeting of the Council of Administration would take place the following day. Owing to the lateness of the hour at which this communication reached us, it was not possible for us to attend the meeting.

We have now the honour to forward herewith copy of the Resolution passed by the Council: Mr. Standen voted against.

We take this opportunity of forwarding the *procès* of the meeting which we attended on the 1st August, in which a full exposition of the views held by M. de Lesseps and the Council generally on the subject of the neutrality of the Canal is recorded.

We have, &c.
(Signed) J. STOKES.
C. RIVERS WILSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 191.

Resolution passed by the Council of the Suez Company on the 5th August, 1882.

LE Conseil réuni extraordinairement aujourd'hui a pris la résolution suivante:—

"Le Khédive dont le pouvoir n'a pas été jugé suffisant pour réunir, sans l'autorisation du Sultan, la Méditerranée à la Mer Rouge, ne peut avoir une autorité plus étendue lorsqu'il s'agit de porter atteinte aux stipulations formelles du texte de la Concession.

"L'accord même des auteurs de la Concession ne pourrait modifier l'engagement solennel qu'ils ont contracté envers le monde entier en déclarant la neutralité du Canal de Suez.

"Le maintien de cette neutralité, jusqu'ici respectée, et qui exclue tout acte de guerre dans le Canal, constitue pour la Compagnie une obligation qui est la base de sa Concession.

"Notre Compagnie Égyptienne ne saurait se prêter à une violation d'une neutralité qui est la garantie du commerce de toutes les nations.

"Aucun Gouvernement n'amènerait le Conseil d'Administration à accepter la responsabilité d'actes préjudiciables à toutes les nationalités intéressées à la liberté permanente de la navigation dans le Canal de Suez.

"Notre Société, purement commerciale, ne peut qu'opposer la proclamation de ces principes à d'injustifiables prétentions politiques.

"Le Conseil s'associe donc, hautement, au nom du droit menacé, aux protestations de son Président.

"Il exprime sa gratitude à M. Ferdinand de Lesseps et à tout le personnel de la Compagnie."

Inclosure 2 in No. 191.

Procès-verbal of the Meeting of the Suez Canal Company on the 1st August, 1882.

NOUS avons à vous rendre compte des événements qui se sont passés depuis un mois, des diverses communications que nous avons reçues d'Égypte, soit de mon père, soit de l'Agent Supérieur, et des renseignements de toute nature que nous avons sur la situation.

À la dernière séance, nous vous avons rendu compte des difficultés considérables qu'avait rencontrées l'Agent Supérieur, et de l'énergie dont il avait dû faire preuve afin de combattre les démarches qui étaient faites par les diverses autorités Consulaires, et qui étaient de nature à provoquer sur le Canal une panique du personnel, analogue à celle qui s'était précédemment produite dans le reste de l'Égypte, ce qui aurait pu amener le fait très grave de suspendre le trafic, le Canal n'ayant plus d'agents pour l'exploiter. Depuis votre dernière séance, la question s'est localisée. Ce sont princi-

palement les actes accomplis par les autorités Anglaises qui ont maintenu cette situation difficile.

Le 18 Juin, le Gouverneur-Général écrivait à l'Agent Supérieur, après la malheureuse journée du 11 Juin à Alexandrie, pour l'assurer du maintien de la tranquillité publique, qui, en effet, n'a pas été troublée jusqu'ici.

Cependant, le 7 Juillet, le Commandant Anglais à Port Saïd a demandé l'autorisation de faire passer dans le Canal un torpilleur.* Il y a eu là naturellement une certaine émotion de la part de notre personnel et de l'Agent Supérieur; vu les craintes qui avaient été répandues, en Angleterre notamment, sur les dangers de torpilles Égyptiennes dans le Canal, il semblait assez extraordinaire que ce fussent précisément les autorités Anglaises qui demandassent à faire circuler un torpilleur dans le Canal. Il y avait là, dans la qualification de ce navire, quelque chose qui devait étonner. La forme même de ce torpilleur, et la faculté qu'il sollicitait de circuler librement dans le Canal, n'étaient pas, d'ailleurs, compatibles avec les nécessités de la navigation.

L'Agent Supérieur a donc fait connaître au Commandant, qu'il y avait là une situation qui n'avait pas été prévue par le Règlement, et qu'il pensait que ce ne serait qu'à Paris qu'on pourrait examiner un principe de cette importance. Le Commandant a répondu immédiatement qu'il voyait qu'il y avait eu une méprise, que ce n'était pas un torpilleur qu'il voulait faire passer dans le Canal, que c'était un navire à grande vitesse, que c'était en qualité de la vitesse de ce canot spécial qu'il voulait l'employer dans le Canal.

L'incident n'eut pas d'autre suite. Avant de connaître les explications du Commandant, qui ne sont arrivées que par lettre, nous avions envoyé à l'Agent Supérieur notre approbation du refus qu'il avait fait de laisser passer ce torpilleur qui pouvait troubler considérablement le personnel et les communications générales.

Les choses en étaient là, et, évidemment, cet incident, qui se passait le 7 Juillet, n'aurait pas eu de conséquence, si le 8 Juillet, au matin, nos services n'avaient appris que les autorités maritimes Anglaises engageaient les navires Anglais à ne pas passer dans le Canal, pour des raisons de prudence, a-t-on dit depuis, mais enfin, dans un moment où rien n'annonçait que la sécurité fût troublée sur le Canal, et dans des termes tels que des navires qui avaient déjà pris des pilotes à bord ne les ont pas conservés et n'ont pas transité. Il y a même un navire qui était entré dans le port, qui devait passer, et qui a purement et simplement repris la mer.

Et puis, il s'est produit cette coïncidence, qu'à l'instant où cette invitation était faite, par les autorités navales Anglaises, à leurs navires de ne pas passer par le Canal, la panique se répandait immédiatement dans Port Saïd. Ainsi, cette mesure était comprise par la population elle-même comme un acte d'hostilité (telle a été l'impression locale) tandis qu'aucune menace ne venait de l'intérieur; il a suffi de cette mesure prise par les autorités navales Anglaises pour que, immédiatement, en une seconde, la population se soit enfaïe, soit montée à bord des différents navires de guerre qui stationnaient dans le port, et que notre agence du transit ait été encombré par les femmes et les enfants du personnel éplorés, qui croyaient à un danger, et le danger ne venait que de l'extérieur. Il semblait que cette mesure précédât quelque acte inconnu plus grave. C'est dans ces conditions que l'Agent Supérieur a protesté. Non seulement cette panique pouvait gagner le personnel, et compromettre notre exploitation, mais elle faisait partir également les marchands, et, par conséquent, ajoutait encore aux inquiétudes par la crainte d'un manque de vivres. Telles sont les diverses impressions qui se sont produites le 8 Juillet. Dans ces conditions, l'Agent Supérieur était fondé à se demander quel était le but poursuivi; il crut devoir protester, au nom de la Compagnie, contre l'acte de la marine Anglaise. Je vous montrerai tout à l'heure que les autorités Anglaises n'ont pas limité leur intervention aux bâtiments Anglais; il y a un fait dont je vous donnerai connaissance, et qui montre qu'il y avait au moins une tendance, de leur part, à étendre leur surveillance et leur protestation à des navires d'autre nationalité. J'y reviendrai dans un instant. L'Agent Supérieur devait maintenir son personnel à son poste, sauvegarder contre toute éventualité la liberté du Canal stipulée dans l'Acte de Concession, et se mettre à couvert contre toutes réclamations des tiers. Ce sont là les motifs qui l'ont déterminé. Mais l'Agent Supérieur se considérait tellement comme le défenseur de la neutralité, à tous égards, du Canal, qu'en même temps qu'il protestait contre l'acte des autorités maritimes Anglaises, il prévenait une autre complication qui eût eu, pour l'Angleterre elle-même, les conséquences les plus sérieuses. Le navire "Dongola," stationnaire

* Captain Seymour states that he made no such application (see Admiralty letter of August 14).

Égyptien, se trouvait à Suez et le Gouverneur sur un ordre d'Arabi Pacha, à cette même date, demandait à la Compagnie de laisser ce navire entrer dans le Canal, et y stationner pour sa protection. Évidemment, si l'Agent Supérieur y avait prêté les mains, il aurait pu naître un conflit des plus sérieux.

Supposons la rencontre du navire Égyptien et du torpilleur Anglais; que serait-il survenu?

L'Agent Supérieur, avec beaucoup de tact et de prudence, a obtenu du Gouverneur qu'il renonçât à cette prétention. Il n'en a plus été question.

Ce fait prouve que, dès l'origine l'Agent Supérieur a eu en vue non telle ou telle nationalité, mais un principe les intéressant toutes; il s'est efforcé de maintenir libre, sûre et tranquille, l'exploitation du Canal, ce à quoi il est parvenu.

Le 18 Juillet, il nous a écrit en nous rendant compte de circonstances qui indiquent quel était le caractère de l'intervention des autorités maritimes Anglaises quant au Conseil ou à l'avis donné aux navires de passer ou de ne pas passer par le Canal:—

"Depuis ma lettre du 11 vous rendant compte des événements des journées du 10 et du 11, la situation s'est modifiée avantageusement sur le Canal Maritime, mais elle a empiré dans le reste de l'Égypte.

"Le 11, les navires Anglais de Suez commençaient à entrer dans le Canal, le 12, ceux de Port Saïd imitaient cet exemple, et aujourd'hui le trafic du Canal a lieu comme par le passé, malgré l'attitude des navires de guerre Anglais.

"Le 15, le Consul Anglais à Suez, accompagné d'un Lieutenant du stationnaire Anglais "Ready" a demandé à M. Chartrey s'il était vrai que deux navires de commerce Anglais, le "Glenlyon" et le "Vindobola" étaient arrêtés dans le Canal et pillés par les Bédouins."

Le Commandant du "Ready" avait reçu cette nouvelle de Londres par dépêche et il demandait à entrer dans le Canal pour assurer la sécurité de ses nationaux. M. Chartrey s'est contenté de répondre que le Canal était libre et l'avait toujours été, malgré toutes les fausses nouvelles répandues. Le Commandant du "Ready" avait aussi informé le Commandant du stationnaire Français "Voltigeur" de la nouvelle, mais celui-ci n'y avait ajouté aucune créance.

Autre fait non moins extraordinaire.

Le 12, le pilote major de Suez s'est rendu à bord d'un vapeur Français "Cypriano" pour en effectuer la vérification. Il a trouvé le canot à vapeur de l'avis "Ready" le long du bord et s'est informé de la mission que venait remplir l'officier du "Ready" à bord d'un navire de commerce Français. Le Capitaine du "Cypriano" a déclaré à notre pilote major que le Commandant du "Ready" le faisait prévenir que le Canal était libre.

Donc, s'il faisait prévenir que le Canal était libre, il l'aurait aussi bien prévenu qu'il ne l'était pas. Donc, les autorités maritimes Anglaises étendaient leur protection non seulement à leurs navires, mais aux navires des autres nationalités, et lui donnaient un caractère général.

M. le Colonel Stokes.—C'est un navire Français.

M. le Président.—Le "Cypriano" était Français et l'officier du "Ready" est venu à bord pour lui dire qu'il pouvait passer.

M. le Colonel Stokes.—Et le "Ready"?

M. le Président.—Le "Ready" est un bâtiment Anglais; c'est le même bateau qui a toujours porté les avis aux navires. C'est un officier du "Ready" qui est allé à bord d'un navire Français pour lui dire qu'il pouvait passer.

La lettre de l'Agent Supérieur se continue ainsi:

"Le calme est revenu à Port Saïd, et à moins de complications provoquées par la politique extérieure, rien ne fait prévoir qu'il puisse être troublé sur aucun point de la ligne du Canal où les autorités Égyptiennes affirment chaque jour leur désir de maintenir la tranquillité.

"La police indigène du Caire a été admirable de vigilance, et le Préfet de Police a favorisé lui-même le départ des Européens, dont il ne pouvait plus garantir la sécurité."

L'Agent Supérieur parle ensuite des secours qu'il a donnés en faveur des réfugiés.

Il y a un dossier spécial pour ce côté de la question dont le Conseil sera ultérieurement saisi.

C'est lorsque le Président a eu connaissance de la situation qu'il s'est rendu en Égypte. Il a annoncé dans ces termes son départ à l'Agent Supérieur:—

"Partirai Jeudi matin de Marseille sur Messageries pour Ismaïlia.

"Toutes mesures de précaution que tu jugerai indispensables pour assurer la sécurité de notre vaillant personnel seraient approuvées.

(Signé) "FERDINAND DE LESSEPS."

Mon père n'avait aucune crainte sur la sécurité du personnel, mais, sachant son dévouement, il ne voulait pas que si, par impossible, un danger venait à se présenter, notre personnel se crût obligé de ne prendre aucune espèce de précautions.

Dès le 8 Juillet, il avait posé, dans des instructions à l'Agent Supérieur, le principe fondamental dont il ne s'est pas départi pendant tout son voyage, et sur lequel se maintient encore le respect de la neutralité du Canal.

Les termes de sa dépêche sont importants, parce qu'ils sont l'explication de tous ses actes depuis qu'il est en Égypte.

"Toute action ou démonstration guerrière est interdite aux entrées ou sur le parcours du Canal Maritime. Sa neutralité a été proclamée par le Firman de Concession. Elle a été reconnue et pratiquée pendant les deux dernières guerres Franco-Allemande et Russo-Turque.

(Signé) "FERDINAND DE LESSEPS."

Les principes de mon père sur la neutralité sont ceux qui sont consacrés par la Concession. Ils sont suffisamment indiqués ici, mais ils s'entendent d'une façon extrêmement générale et extrêmement intéressante pour toutes les nations, aussi bien pour l'Angleterre que pour les autres nations. Mon père soutient que le Canal étant neutre, il faut que la liberté des communications y soit assurée à toute époque, quelles que soient les querelles qui peuvent exister d'ailleurs dans le monde. Ainsi, par exemple, de même que, dans la guerre Turco-Russe, l'Angleterre alors a soutenu, vis-à-vis de la Russie, et avec succès, que le Canal de Suez devait rester absolument respecté, et que les belligérants pouvaient s'y rencontrer sans y causer aucun dommage, et ne devaient, en aucun cas, y empêcher leur navigation réciproque, nous nous appuyons aujourd'hui sur le même principe, et nous disons que l'Égypte ayant des difficultés avec une autre nation, doit laisser passer les bâtiments de cette nation dans le Canal, en les respectant, et que les navires de cette nation ne se serviront pas pour attaquer l'Égypte, du respect de l'Égypte pour la neutralité du Canal.

Nous soutenons que, si ce principe est méconnu, il aura dans l'avenir les conséquences les plus fâcheuses pour tous.

On vient aujourd'hui nous dire, l'Angleterre nous dit : Mais nous venons protéger le Canal. Nous répondrons à cela : Le Canal croit qu'il n'a pas besoin de protection. S'il y a à le protéger, vous le protégerez aussi bien en étant sur l'eau qu'en étant sur terre.

De dangers actuels il n'y en a pas.

Si ce sont des dangers futurs que l'on craint, on pourra aussi bien y obvier en opérant un débarquement quand ils existeront.

Si le débarquement s'effectue d'avance, il y a là un acte d'hostilité constaté, qui, selon nous, peut amener justement les malheurs que l'on redoute. Nous croyons que mon père, en suivant la ligne de conduite qu'il s'est tracée, se place encore plus dans l'intérêt général que dans l'intérêt de la Compagnie.

La Compagnie a trop de confiance dans le Gouvernement Anglais pour ne pas être certaine, quels que soient les événements, que ses droits spéciaux, qui résultent de sa Concession, seront absolument respectés. Telle n'est pas notre inquiétude. Le point de vue auquel se place mon père est beaucoup plus élevé. Il ne se rapporte pas seulement aux intérêts financiers et commerciaux de la Compagnie, il se rapporte à l'intérêt du monde entier suivant les prévisions de la Concession, lorsqu'on a stipulé la neutralité du Canal. Il dit, si aujourd'hui l'Angleterre méconnaît assez ses propres intérêts dans le Canal, pour ne pas tenir compte de ce principe si respectable de la neutralité, il viendra un jour où l'Angleterre elle-même sera la première à le regretter, elle aura créé un précédent dont on se servira contre elle. Si, par exemple, l'Angleterre se trouvait en guerre avec la Turquie, que dirait-elle si la Turquie faisait des actes de guerre dans le Canal contre les navires Anglais, et arrêtaient leur transit ?

Je le répète, mon père croit qu'il représente en ce moment l'intérêt général, et je me suis permis de dire, hier, à nos collègues Anglais, qu'il était très intéressant, quels que fussent les événements, de quelque façon qu'ils puissent se dérouler par la suite, quelques conséquences qu'ils aient, qu'il était très intéressant pour l'Angleterre elle-même qu'il y ait quelqu'un, ce quelqu'un étant le Président de la Compagnie, qui

jusqu'au bout proteste énergiquement en faveur du maintien de la neutralité du Canal; et je suis convaincu que, même, si des événements que nous considérerions comme déplorables se produisaient, l'Angleterre plus tard serait très heureuse de s'appuyer sur le précédent qu'aurait créé mon père, pour rétablir les vrais principes dont elle a absolument besoin plus que personne.

C'est ce sentiment qui inspire notre conduite, et, notamment, celle du Président en Égypte. Voici, d'ailleurs, les diverses dépêches que nous avons reçues depuis quelques jours. Elles ont été généralement publiées. Je vais vous les lire rapidement pour ne rien omettre, et je répondrai aux observations que vous pourriez faire sur les opinions ou sur les faits consignés dans ces dépêches :—"22 Juillet, 1882. Arrivé Port Saïd hier. Victor ici. Partons pour Ismaïlia et Suez tout comme en temps ordinaire, grâce à attitude de notre personnel. Arabi déclare respecte neutralité Canal."

Ici il est intéressant de dire un mot d'Arabi, et des prétendues relations de mon père avec Arabi.

La Compagnie n'a pas d'acte politique à faire, bien entendu : elle est une Société commerciale, et si elle parle de neutralité, c'est parce que la neutralité est inscrite dans sa Concession, et que c'est une obligation qui lui est imposée, une charge pour ainsi dire de sa Concession, de défendre cette neutralité.

Arabi est un pouvoir de fait, un pouvoir qui s'étend sur la plus grande partie de l'Égypte, qui détient le Canal d'Eau-Douce, qui dispose de la force publique. Les relations de mon père n'ont pas eu d'autre conséquence que d'assurer la neutralité du Canal, de faire respecter les navires Anglais eux-mêmes, puisque ce sont les navires Anglais qui passent le plus dans le Canal; c'est eux surtout en faveur desquels mon père a obtenu d'Arabi le respect absolu de la neutralité du Canal.

Vous verrez dans les télégrammes qu'il a envoyés, que ses relations avec Arabi n'ont eu également pour conséquence que de sauver un certain nombre de vies humaines en Égypte, et je crois que, jusqu'ici, mon père se trouve être le seul qui ait eu la bonne chance de sauver des vies humaines en Égypte.

Les relations avec Arabi, que certaines personnes ont critiquées, qui ont inspiré quelques inquiétudes, n'ont pas d'autre caractère que celui-là; et je crois que tout le monde reconnaîtra qu'il n'y avait pas moyen que nous déclarions la guerre à Arabi pas plus que nous ne la déclarons à personne : ce n'est pas notre rôle de déclarer la guerre à qui que ce soit.

Les renseignements que mon père avait recueillis à Alexandrie semblaient indiquer que Arabi était une menace pour la sécurité du Canal, et qu'il pouvait y avoir urgence à prendre des mesures de protection : arrivé à Port Saïd, il s'est assuré que les renseignements pris à Alexandrie n'étaient pas exacts, et voici ce qu'il télégraphie :—

"Lesseps, Ismaïlia.

"Ismaïlia, le 26 Juillet, 1882, 8:15 matin.

"Khédive et Agents étrangers étaient mal informés sur Port-Saïd, Ismaïlia, Suez. Tout débarquement, loin d'être nécessaire, serait dangereux aujourd'hui. Sécurité et neutralité complètes respectées partout.

(Signé) "LESSEPS."

"Lesseps, Paris.

"Ismaïlia, le 26 Juillet, 1882, 8:55 soir.

"Amiral Anglais m'ayant déclaré qu'il ne ferait pas débarquer sans être précédé par marine Française et débarquement pouvant causer ruine Port Saïd, j'ai dû rassurer la nombreuse population Arabe, sans laquelle nous serions forcés d'interrompre nos travaux en présence des Ulémas et des Notables.

(Signé) "FERDINAND DE LESSEPS."

Vous remarquerez combien une panique, provoquée par un débarquement, qui se répandrait dans la population Arabe, serait fatale au trafic : ce sont les Arabes qui font toutes les manutentions de charbon, qui travaillent dans les ateliers aux réparations des navires, qui sont employés sur les bateaux, qui sont même dans les garages. Il y aurait là un embarras des plus sérieux pour notre exploitation.

Nous avons résumé ainsi et donné à l'Agence Havas diverses dépêches :—

"Ismaïlia, le 28 Juillet.

"M. Ferdinand de Lesseps a exprimé l'opinion que la sécurité du Canal était assurée tant qu'il n'y aurait pas de débarquement dans l'isthme; la population Arabe et Européenne de Port-Saïd, très émue à la nouvelle d'un débarquement possible, M. de Lesseps a réuni les Notables indigènes et les Ulémas pour les rassurer. Si cette

émotion avait persisté, les indigènes auraient abandonné Port-Saïd et le transit par le Canal aurait été forcément interrompu."

Après cet incident, M. de Lesseps a reçu la dépêche suivante, en Arabe :—

"Je vous remercie de ce que vous avez fait pour empêcher débarquement de troupes étrangères à Port-Saïd, et de vos efforts pour donner tranquillité d'esprit aux indigènes et Européens.

(Signé) "Ministre de Guerre et de la Marine."

M. de Lesseps a exprimé l'avis que le Canal Maritime était par la Concession du Sultan déclaré passage neutre; que les navires de tous pavillons pouvaient le traverser, mais qu'aucun navire n'avait le droit de faire acte de guerre dans la limite du Canal neutralisé; qu'il reconnaissait, d'ailleurs, que jusqu'ici la sécurité et la neutralité complètes du Canal avaient été respectées par tous.

"Lesseps, Paris.

"Ismailia, le 28 Juillet, 1882, 9:35 matin.

"Ai envoyé hier soir de Port-Saïd à Amiral Hoskins protestation contre infractions graves à nos Règlements par marine Britannique à Ismaïlia. Venu ici ce matin pour défendre énergiquement neutralité de la propriété privée de nos actionnaires. Nous opposerons énergiquement tout acte contre notre neutralité.

(Signé) "FERDINAND DE LESSEPS."

Nous n'avons aucun détail sur cette infraction aux Règlements.

Nous avons lu certains récits dans les journaux Anglais, mais nous ne savons officiellement que ce qu'il y a dans cette dépêche.

"Lesseps, Paris.

"Ismailia, le 29 Juillet, 8 heures, matin.

"Vouloir débarquer à Ismaïlia où il n'y a pas un seul soldat Égyptien est une intention de prise de possession de notre Canal. Se trouvent seulement ici un Chef de Police indigène et quelques agents; habitants sont nos employés, familles et réfugiés; en tête de notre personnel les envahisseurs nous trouverons [?] sans armes en face d'eux pour barrer passage avec protestation.

(Signé) "LESSEPS."

"Ismailia, le 30 Juillet, 8:50 matin.

"Commandant Orion ai visité; avoue faits ayant motivé protestation; dit avoir agi par ordre supérieur; ai répondu que protestation était d'autant plus justifiée; est sorti convaincu que notre résistance à prétention de commander sur Canal était inébranlable. Personnel hôpital Européen au Caire demande à être évacué sur Ismaïlia: 35 malades, 11 sœurs, 1 médecin, et 4 desservants; tout préparé ici pour les recevoir; écris à Arabi de les expédier sous escorte par train spécial avec matériel; ai recommandé assurer sécurité des Français et Italiens restés dans province Zagazig, où ordre a été maintenu par Gouverneur.

(Signé) "LESSEPS."

"Ismailia, le 30 Juillet.

"Les dépêches publiées par des journaux d'Angleterre sur l'attitude de M. de Lesseps sont généralement inexactes. La communication de M. de Lesseps avec Arabi a eu pour objet d'assurer l'émigration protégée de 120 Grecs abandonnés dans un village et de préparer le transport escorté du Caire à Ismaïlia des malades et du personnel de l'hôpital Européen, soit: 35 malades, 11 sœurs, 1 médecin, et 4 infirmiers, et de maintenir l'ordre maintenu dans la Province de Zagazig, où sont de nombreux Français et Italiens. M. de Lesseps persiste à croire que la neutralité du Canal ne sera pas violée par les Égyptiens si les Européens ne la violent pas. Il a protesté contre un acte de la marine Anglaise, qui était contraire aux Règlements de la Compagnie du Canal, approuvés par le Sultan, et qui sont la sauvegarde du commerce universel, à qui la liberté du Canal a été garantie.

"L'opinion publique dans tout l'isthme est conforme aux vues de M. de Lesseps."

Enfin, voici la dernière dépêche que nous avons reçue; elle est extrêmement intéressante, puisqu'un des dangers que l'on pouvait redouter, que nous ne redoutions pas, mais que l'on n'en avait pas moins cherché à mettre en avant, c'était le danger, provenant des Bédouins qui se trouvent aux environs du Canal, et, grâce à l'attitude de mon père, ce danger se trouve écarté, ces Bédouins devenant, au contraire, notre garantie et notre sécurité :—

"Ismailia, le 31 Juillet, 1882, 8:42 matin.

"Les chefs Bédouins des régions orientales entre le Canal de Suez et le Nil sont venus se mettre à la disposition de M. Ferdinand de Lesseps. Arabi leur a recommandé d'obéir à M. de Lesseps. Ce dernier a offert au Commandant du cuirassé Anglais d'aller constater, à cheval, la sécurité des environs d'Ismaïlia et l'absence des troupes Égyptiennes. Toute personne ayant un laissez-passer revêtu du cachet de M. de Lesseps peut circuler en Égypte, jusqu'au Caire. Des négociants qui avaient abandonné leurs intérêts profitent de ces laissez-passer. M. de Lesseps a dit que les Anglais étaient actuellement les seuls menaçant la neutralité du Canal de Suez par la prétention qu'ils auraient, inadmissible, de faire la police du Canal.

"L'Agent Supérieur du Canal de Suez et tout le personnel du Canal sont toujours admirables de calme, de dévouement, et de résolution.

"Je devais vous donner communication, naturellement, de tout, et je n'avais pas de commentaire à ajouter."

M. Freville.—C'est très intéressant.

M. le Président.—Je n'avais pas de commentaire à ajouter, si ce n'est sur l'explication des opinions de mon père au point de vue de la neutralité du Canal—explication que je crois que le Conseil approuvera, car c'est là un principe dont nous ne pouvons pas nous départir dans l'intérêt général.

M. le Colonel Stokes.—M. le Président, relativement aux observations qui ont été faites sur le Canal, nous ne croyons pas devoir offrir d'explications; nous ferons connaître à notre Gouvernement l'opinion que vous avez exprimée. Mais, enfin, nous pouvons, quant au torpilleur, dire qu'on n'a jamais eu l'intention de mettre des torpilles dans le Canal. Ce torpilleur, c'est une espèce de barque assez rapide.

M. le Président.—Je l'ai expliqué moi-même.

M. le Colonel Stokes.—Le but était de faire un passage vite, et pas de mettre des torpilles. C'est une erreur. Quant aux protestations de M. Victor de Lesseps, je crois qu'il a caractérisé les actes officiels dans une forme qui n'était pas nécessaire, au moins à notre avis.

Mr. Wilson.—M. de Lesseps a fait des observations qui sont distinguées par la courtoisie et la modération dont il se sert toujours quand il présente une observation. Seulement il est évident que ce qu'il indique se résume dans une petite critique de la politique Anglaise qui est poursuivie en ce moment-ci. J'indique une divergence de vues sur cette question de la neutralité du Canal, mais comme nous ne sommes pas ici à discuter sur le terrain politique, je crois que nous ferons mieux de ne pas entrer en discussion sur les appréciations de votre pensée et sur les faits, sauf à tenir notre Gouvernement au courant, bien entendu, de votre manière de voir sur le Canal.

M. le Président.—Je n'ai qu'à vous remercier des quelques observations que vous avez bien voulu faire.

Je vous avais moi-même signalé, au point de vue du torpilleur, les explications qui avaient été données par le Commandant Anglais. Ce fait, voici l'importance très grande que je lui attribue. Vous savez, nos collègues Anglais savent quelle est la confiance que nous avons toujours témoignée à eux et à leur Gouvernement, et ils ont toujours reconnu, d'ailleurs, que nous ne nous étions jamais départis de ce sentiment de confiance qui subsiste absolu; je suis convaincu que, dans les circonstances actuelles, il y a beaucoup plus de malentendu que de réalité, que vos intentions sont beaucoup meilleures qu'elles ne peuvent le paraître, et j'ai eu l'occasion plusieurs fois de signaler à Mr. Standen, notamment, qu'il était fâcheux qu'à l'origine de cette question les Agents ou les officiers qui représentaient l'Angleterre n'aient pas suffisamment expliqué leurs actes, soient restés en les annonçant tellement laconiques que toutes les suppositions venaient à l'esprit.

C'est tellement vrai, que leurs actes ont amené, un moment, une panique.

Il n'y a pas que nous qui nous soyons trompés: s'il y a eu erreur de notre part, tout le public l'a partagée; c'est justement ce qui explique les termes de la protestation, à propos desquels je suis heureux de voir que M. le Colonel Stokes ne conteste pas le droit que pouvait avoir la Compagnie de formuler une protestation. Il ne s'élève que contre les termes mêmes de la protestation.

Vous comprendrez que je n'abandonne pas, même quant à la forme, mon frère et l'agent de la Compagnie, dans l'acte qu'il a fait, mais si vous pensez autrement que moi, je crois qu'on peut admettre que les circonstances étaient telles qu'il était assez difficile de mesurer exactement ses termes, et je répéterai ici une comparaison que j'ai donnée à Mr. Standen; c'est que lorsque vous avez tiré sur les forts d'Alexandrie,

vous n'aviez pas l'intention d'envoyer des obus dans la ville et cependant il y en a quelques-uns qui ont passé par-dessus les forts et ont mis le feu à des maisons.

Dans ce cas, s'il y a quelques éclats qui ont été plus loin qu'il ne fallait, le principe de la protestation était incontestable.

Maintenant je comprends très bien que Mr. Wilson ne soit pas en mesure de discuter la question de la neutralité.

Je tiens cependant à relever un mot dans ce qu'il a dit.

Nous prétendons, en effet, que nous ne faisons pas là un acte politique, et il semble résulter des paroles de Mr. Wilson qu'il existe une contradiction entre la politique de l'Angleterre et celle de la Compagnie. L'Angleterre a le droit d'avoir une politique; il est interdit à la Compagnie d'en avoir une, et la Compagnie entend établir qu'elle est en dehors de la politique. Elle est en présence d'un acte de Concession qui lui constitue des obligations, des devoirs qu'elle a à remplir non seulement vis-à-vis de celui qui lui a donné la Concession, mais vis-à-vis du monde entier.

Elle prétend qu'on n'a pas le droit de débarquer sur des terres qui lui ont été concédées. La Compagnie ferait acte politique si elle appréciait les circonstances qui conduisent une politique à envahir les terrains réservés à son exploitation et qu'elle occupe en raison de sa Concession, on ne peut pas débarquer au Canal sans passer sur son terrain. Eh bien, a-t-on le droit d'occuper le terrain de quelqu'un? c'est justement parce que nous ne faisons pas de politique et que le raisonnement politique nous échappe que nous sommes en présence de ce fait de passants qui viendraient s'installer sur nos terrains.

Vous me direz qu'il y a un fait de guerre. Justement, c'est un fait de guerre sur le Canal. Eh bien, la neutralité implique qu'il ne doit pas y avoir de fait de guerre sur le Canal. Et, d'autre part, nous voilà donc obligés d'interpréter les intentions de ceux qui feraient des actes sur le Canal.

Eh bien, comme j'ai eu l'honneur de vous le dire hier, si, aujourd'hui, nous faisons une interprétation qui vous serait favorable dans ce sens, demain nous pourrions en faire une au profit d'une autre nation qui vous serait extrêmement défavorable. Le Canal est neutre; elle doit protester. Elle n'a pas d'armée, elle n'a pas de marine; elle n'a qu'un moyen, c'est la protestation légale et régulière. Mon père aurait aussi bien protesté, très probablement, contre un débarquement de telle autre nation que l'Angleterre, s'il s'était opéré. Cela n'est pas spécial à la politique Anglaise.

Mr. Wilson.—Je crois qu'il y a un fait, c'est ceci: nous agissons—le Gouvernement Anglais agit—avec l'assentiment, avec le désir du Khédive, qui n'a jamais abdiqué ses droits souverains sur le territoire du Canal; d'actes d'hostilité proprement dite, il n'y en a pas eu; il n'en aura pas puisque l'action qui a été prise est seulement prise dans les intérêts du Khédive, non pas comme acte de guerre, mais pour mettre à l'ordre des officiers des, émeutiers, qui, tout le monde le sait, sont révoltés contre lui; et je ne crois pas qu'on puisse admettre que le Khédive ait abdiqué son droit, se soit départi de ce droit souverain qui est d'aller sur son propre terrain, sur le sol Égyptien, de manière que, quand on parle d'actes d'hostilité, d'acte de guerre, je ne croie pas qu'on puisse soutenir cela.

M. le Président.—Le Khédive ne me paraîtrait pas avoir ce droit. D'abord, nous tenons la Concession non seulement du Khédive, mais du Sultan; et je crois qu'il était plus normal de laisser le Khédive nous faire la Concession du Canal, sans l'intervention de la Porte, tandis que vous avez toujours soutenu que l'intervention de la Porte était nécessaire, même pour faire un travail profitable au monde entier. Je crois que, dans le cas actuel, il serait encore plus grave que le Khédive vint faire un acte qui serait contraire à la Concession qu'il a donnée, et qui a été ratifiée par le Sultan, qu'il n'aurait été grave de faire le Canal sans la ratification de la Porte; d'autant plus qu'il n'y a pas de troupes sur le Canal, et, comme vous voyez, mon père a offert à l'Amiral Anglais de se promener le long du Canal à cheval avec lui tout seul, et de s'assurer qu'il n'y avait ni troupes, ni menaces, ni désordres. Arabi n'est pas là; il est au Caire, ou sur la ligne du Caire à Alexandrie. Il n'y a aucun motif pour se préoccuper, à propos du Canal, d'un état de choses sur lequel je n'ai pas d'opinion à émettre, mais qui se trouve loin de nos terrains, puisqu'ils n'occupent que 200 mètres sur chaque rive; nous n'avons pas à nous occuper de ce qui pourrait se passer ailleurs.

Mr. Wilson.—Il est raisonnable de penser qu'Arabi frapperait ses ennemis les Anglais là où il pourrait les atteindre. S'il pouvait les frapper dans le Canal, soyez sûrs qu'il ne serait arrêté par aucune protestation.

M. le Président.—Les précautions que vous croiriez devoir prendre pour des faits simplement supposés ne nécessitent pas un débarquement.

Mr. Wilson.—C'est à titre de précaution.

M. le Président.—Vous avez vos troupes à bord des navires; elles n'ont qu'à y rester casernées sans provoquer de troubles.

Mr. Wilson.—Vous avez critiqué l'action des Commandants Anglais un jour ou deux avant le bombardement, parce qu'ils ont engagé les vaisseaux Anglais à ne pas entrer dans le Canal. Il me semble que c'est une sage précaution.

M. le Président.—Je me suis borné à un simple exposé de faits sans aucune interprétation de ma part sur le mobile qu'a eu le Gouvernement Anglais, et je crois avoir été très discret et très réservé sur les faits qui se sont passés.

Mr. Wilson.—Vous dites que les Commandants Anglais ont un peu excédé leur permission. Je ne sais pas. Il était su par les Commandants à Port-Saïd et à Suez que le bombardement allait avoir lieu; il pouvait être possible qu'Arabi, dans cette occasion, ordonnât des dégâts au Canal, et on a pris la précaution de le faire savoir aux vaisseaux qui devaient entrer.

M. le Président.—Mon frère ignorait qu'il y eût bombardement. Il s'est trouvé en présence d'une demande d'admettre un torpilleur sans explication, et, le lendemain, d'une interdiction de laisser passer les navires Anglais dans leur généralité, sans plus d'explication, et ces deux mesures réunies amenaient une panique à Port-Saïd. Voilà les faits en présence desquels il se trouvait. Il est fâcheux que les explications que vous donnez ne se soient pas produites à cette époque. En résumé, je pense que vous tiendrez compte du sentiment qui nous guide—sentiment qui n'a aucun caractère politique, qui n'est dirigé spécialement contre aucune politique, et n'a pas d'autre mobile que l'obligation dans laquelle nous nous trouvons, de faire respecter l'acte de Concession, obligation qui nous a été imposée par l'acte de Concession lui-même.

M. De Clercq.—Je crois que le Conseil ne peut que remercier M. le Vice-Président des détails dans lesquels il est entré, et il me semble que je ne ferai qu'interpréter l'opinion de la majorité du Conseil en le priant de transmettre, au nom du Conseil, tous les remerciements que notre Président nous paraît avoir mérités par le courage et l'abnégation avec lesquels il s'est sacrifié dans cette circonstance pour aller sur le terrain, défendre les droits ainsi que les intérêts de la Compagnie et du commerce universel.

M. le Président.—Je vous remercie de votre proposition, qui sera transmise à mon père.

No. 192.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 23.)

My Lord,

London, August 7, 1882.

WE have the honour to transmit herewith copies of a telegraphic despatch from M. de Lesseps, dated 5th instant, and the answer of the Managing Committee in Paris, dated yesterday, from which it would appear that the English Admiral has declared that he will not land a force at Ismaïlia except on the demand of M. de Lesseps.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. STOKES.

C. RIVERS WILSON

Inclosure 1 in No. 192.

M. F. de Lesseps to M. C. de Lesseps.

(Telegraphique.)

Ismaïlia, le 5 Août, 1882.

AMIRAL Anglais ayant annoncé occupation Ismaïlia en vertu de délégation du Khédive, me suis rendu hier, midi, à bord "Orion," avec Victor. Avons signifié verbalement notre résolution résister pour empêcher graves désordres et interruption dans navigation Canal, population Arabe se disposant à fuir, et forces Égyptiennes se trouvant à Néfiche, dans voisinage.

Avons obtenu déclaration que débarquement aurait lieu seulement sur notre demande. De retour à terre tranquillisé population, tout est rentré dans calme habituel. Le Canal sur toute la ligne est libre. Arabi n'a pas fait couper Canal Eau-Douce; il respecte loyalement notre neutralité.

Inclosure 2 in No. 192.

M. C. de Lesseps to M. F. de Lesseps.

(Télégraphique.)

Paris, le 6 Août, 1882.

NOUS sommes heureux de la dépêche. Amiral Anglais, en déclarant ne devoir débarquer que sur ta demande, affirme politique de protection loyale et respectueuse de neutralité, qui ne permet aucun acte de guerre dans limites Canal.

No. 193.

Sir R. Thompson to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 7.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

War Office, August 5, 1882.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Childers to transmit, for the information of Earl Granville, the inclosed copy of the instructions which have been issued to General Sir G. J. Wolseley, in command of the army ordered for service in Egypt.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RALPH THOMPSON.

Inclosure in No. 193.

Mr. Childers to General Sir G. J. Wolseley.

Sir,

War Office, August 4, 1882.

HER Majesty having been graciously pleased to appoint you to the command of the army ordered for service in Egypt, in support of the authority of His Highness the Khedive, as established by the Firmans of the Sultan and existing international engagements, to suppress a military revolt in that country, I have received the Queen's directions to instruct you to assume the command of an expeditionary force for that purpose without delay.

The force which Her Majesty has placed under your command, proceeding from this country, consists of 4 regiments of cavalry, 8 batteries of Royal Artillery, 1 ammunition column, 6 troops and companies of Royal Engineers, and 10 battalions of infantry, making a total of 14,794 non-commissioned officers and men of all arms.

You will also have under your command a force about to be dispatched from India, consisting of 3 regiments native cavalry, 1 mountain battery of artillery, 2 companies Madras sappers, 1 British battalion of infantry, and 3 native battalions of infantry, making a total of 4,586 non-commissioned officers and men.

Another portion of the force, consisting of 4 garrison batteries of artillery, 2 companies Malta Fencible Artillery, 1 company Royal Engineers, and 6½ battalions of infantry, making a total of 6,186 non-commissioned officers and men, to be under your command, has already, as you are aware, proceeded to Egypt, and is now engaged in the protection of Alexandria.

Her Majesty's Government do not wish to fetter your discretion as to the particular military operations which may be necessary, but the main object of the expedition is to re-establish the power of the Khedive.

Her Majesty's Government empower you, after successful operations against Arabi and those in arms against His Highness the Khedive, to enter into any Military Convention which the circumstances warrant, but no arrangements involving a political settlement should be made by you.

It will be desirable, should time and circumstances admit, that the terms of any Convention should be referred to Her Majesty's Government before being finally decided, and in such case they should be simultaneously communicated to Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General for the information of His Highness the Khedive.

You are aware that in the operations which have taken place at Alexandria Admiral Sir B. Seymour, in the absence of Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General, has been acting as the Representative of Her Majesty's Government.

Sir Edward Malet being now about to return, this arrangement will cease upon his arrival.

Sir Beauchamp Seymour will be instructed to co-operate with you, and render you every assistance in his power.

Her Majesty's Government consider that the protection of the Suez Canal should be undertaken by the fleet; you will communicate with the Admiral on this point and ascertain his arrangements.

Her Majesty's Consul-General in Egypt should be the medium of any communications which you may deem necessary to make to His Highness the Khedive.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HUGH C. E. CHILDERS.

No. 194.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 7.)

THE Secretary of the Admiralty presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram dated the 5th August, which has been addressed to Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett, at Suez, in compliance with Earl Granville's request conveyed in Foreign Office letter of this day's date.

Admiralty, August 5, 1882.

Inclosure in No. 194.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett.

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, August 5, 1882, 7.40 P.M.

WE are acting in support of Viceroy against rebels. Do everything in his name, and make it plain that we have not taken possession for ourselves.

Turkish Ambassador has complained of hoisting British and Egyptian flags.

We think you were right, but explain circumstances.

No. 195.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7, 8 A.M.)

(No. 310.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 6, 1882, midnight.

SAID PASHA has just come to tell me that the Sultan accepts without reserve the identic note, and that his Excellency will make an unconditional declaration to that effect to-morrow to the Conference.

He added that the Ottoman Government will also accept a Military Convention, and [that it] will be communicated to me in a day or two. Its terms, he said, will be satisfactory. Porte proposes that a Civil Commissioner should be attached to the Ottoman forces, with larger powers than those of the Military Commander. He suggests that this General Commissioner should reach Alexandria two or three days before the Ottoman corps d'armée, in order to issue the Proclamation before its arrival. Server Pasha, who is a respectable man, is to be the Commissioner.

No troops will leave the rendezvous at Suda Bay until after understanding has been arrived at with the Powers.

His Excellency is most anxious to meet your Lordship's views. On the other hand, he hopes that you will consult as far as possible the susceptibilities of the Sultan. His proposal as to the mode in which the Proclamation is to be issued appears to me acceptable, as it leaves us time to stop the disembarkation of the troops if the promised conditions are not complied with.

Conference meets at 3 to-morrow.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 7.)

(No. 729. Confidential. Ext. 310.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 6, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that Saïd Pasha has just come to inform me that the Sultan accepts without reserve the identic note of the 15th July, and that his Excellency will make a written declaration to that effect to-morrow at the Conference.

He added that the Ottoman Government will also accept a Military Convention, and that the Proclamation I required with regard to Arabi Pasha is being drawn up, and will be communicated to me in a day or two. Its terms, he said, will be satisfactory. The Porte proposes that a Civil Commissioner should be attached to the Ottoman forces, with larger powers than those of the Military Commissioner, and suggests that the Imperial Commissioner should reach Alexandria two or three days before the Ottoman corps d'armée, in order to issue the Proclamation before its arrival. Server Pasha (who is a respectable man) is to be the Commissioner.

No troops will leave the rendezvous at Suda Bay until after an understanding with the Powers.

His Excellency is most anxious to meet your Lordship's wishes. On the other hand, he hopes that you will consult, as far as possible, the susceptibilities of the Sultan. His proposal as to the mode in which the Proclamation is to be issued appears to me acceptable, as it leaves us time to stop the disembarkation of the troops if the promised conditions are not complied with.

The next meeting of the Conference will take place to-morrow.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 197.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7, 11:30 A.M.)

(No. 385.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 7, 1882, 10:30 A.M.

THE Controllers-General attended the Council of Ministers held on Saturday last.

No. 198.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 492.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 7, 1882, 4:5 P.M.

WE adhere to the necessity of a properly-worded Proclamation before any other step such as the Convention is taken. We should know the wording before you agree to it.

No. 199.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 469. Ext. 492.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 7, 1882.

BEFORE any other step being taken such as the conclusion of a military Convention, Her Majesty's Government adhere to the necessity of the issue of a properly worded Proclamation. The text of it should be communicated to Her Majesty's Government before it is accepted by your Excellency.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 493.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 7, 1882, 4:15 P.M.

WE think that, even as a provisional arrangement, there are practical difficulties with regard to the Italian proposal for the protection of the Suez Canal. We doubt whether Canal could be efficiently protected without occupation of some points on the banks; and if the danger is imminent, as we believe, there would be great loss of time in referring each special case to the Conference.

We have just received information that Arabi is massing troops near the Canal.

No. 201.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 470. Ext. 493.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 7, 1882.

HER Majesty's Government have had before them your Excellency's telegram reporting the Italian proposal for the protection of the Suez Canal. They are of opinion that even regarding it as a provisional arrangement, there are practical difficulties in the way of its execution. They doubt whether the Canal could be efficiently protected without the occupation of some points on its banks, and if the danger is imminent, as they believe it to be, there would be great loss of time in referring each special case to the Conference. Information has just reached Her Majesty's Government that Arabi is massing troops in the neighbourhood of the Canal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 202.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 494.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 7, 1882, 4:55 P.M.

IF asked for explanations as to occupation of Suez, our explanation is that we had given no instructions for it, but that Admiral had authority to land troops if he found it necessary. He had done so in consequence of danger to the town, and his action has been approved. He was acting in interest of Khedive, who has given power to our Naval Commander to take what steps he thinks necessary for protection of the Canal in His Highness' name.

The town is outside the Canal.

No. 203.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 471. Ext. 494.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 7, 1882.

IN the event of your Excellency being asked for explanations as to the occupation of Suez, you will state that Her Majesty's Government had given no instructions for such occupation, but that Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett had authority to land troops should he find it necessary to do so. He had done so in consequence of danger to the town, and his action has been approved by Her Majesty's Government. He was acting in the interest of the Khedive, who has given power to the British Naval Commander to take such steps as he may consider necessary for the protection of the Canal in His Highness' name.

I may remark that the town of Suez is outside the Canal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 204.

Vice-Consul Maling to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7, 5 P.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Dardanelles, August 7, 1882, 4:20 P.M.

ONE Turkish troop-ship is now passing for Egypt with troops and guns.

No. 205.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7, 6:30 P.M.)

(No. 386.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 7, 1882, 4 P.M.

THE Khedive has written to the President of the Council of Ministers, calling attention to the claims of the sufferers from the burning and pillaging of Alexandria, and proposing that his Government should declare that it recognizes in principle the obligation of indemnifying those concerned. He asks them to consider how indemnities can be given equitably and with due regard to the financial position, and what measures should be taken to give effect to any proposals they may have to make.

The Controllers-General have prepared a Confidential Memorandum on the same subject, which goes to Europe by this week's mail.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 206.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 7.)

(No. 517. Ext. 386.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 7, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, copy of a letter which the Khedive has addressed to the President of the Council of Ministers, calling attention to the claims of all persons who have suffered by the massacres, and by the pillage and burning of Alexandria. His Highness points out that it is the duty of his Government to reassure and calm the apprehensions of such persons by declaring that it recognizes, in principle, the obligation of indemnifying, to a just degree, compatible with the resources of the country, all such sufferers, without distinction of nationality. The Khedive concludes by requesting the Council of Ministers to take into their consideration the question of ways and means, calling upon them to report to him the result of their deliberations, in order that no time may be lost in giving it the necessary publicity.

I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Controllers-General have drawn up a Confidential Memorandum on the same subject, copy of which will be forwarded to your Lordship by this week's mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure in No. 206.

His Highness the Khedive to Ragheb Pasha.

M. le Président,

Alexandrie, le 7 Août, 1882.

LA pénible situation dans laquelle se trouve la plupart des personnes éprouvées par les massacres, le pillage, et l'incendie d'Alexandrie, m'émeut profondément; elle est l'objet de mes plus vives préoccupations.

Je considère comme un devoir d'humanité qui s'impose à mon Gouvernement, de rassurer les victimes de ses désastres, et de calmer leurs appréhensions pour l'avenir, en témoignant, dès aujourd'hui, que tant de malheurs n'échappent pas à notre sollicitude.

Pénétré de cette pensée, je désire que mon Gouvernement affirme dès à présent sa volonté d'indemniser, dans des conditions à déterminer en temps opportun, toutes les victimes, sans distinction de nationalité, d'une manière équitable, compatible avec les ressources du pays.

Je vous prie de communiquer ces sentiments et ces instructions au Conseil des

Ministres, en réservant la question des voies et moyens, et de me faire savoir les mesures que vous croyez utiles pour leur donner dans le plus bref délai possible la publicité nécessaire.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) MÉHÉMET TEWFIK.

No. 207.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7, 6:30 P.M.)

(No. 387.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 7, 1882, 4:30 P.M.

THE Khedive agrees to both the arrangements made between the Eastern Telegraph and the Canal Companies, and to grant the concession desired on conditions identic with those now enjoyed by Telegraph Company. He reserves, in view of the present urgency and the absence of all necessary documents for reference here, the term of the concession in lieu of the term proposed in your Lordship's telegram, viz., the term of concession to the Canal. His Government, when formally concluding the matter, will probably propose the term of the concession now held by the Telegraph Company.

No. 208.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 7.)

(No. 518. Ext. 387.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 7, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 516 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that His Highness the Khedive has agreed to confirm the arrangements made between the Eastern Telegraph and the Suez Canal Companies, in regard to the proposed telegraph cable from Alexandria to Suez, via Port Saïd, and that His Highness will grant the desired Concession on conditions identical with those now in force between the Eastern Telegraph Company and the Egyptian Government.

In view of the urgency of the present occasion, and in the absence of all necessary documents for reference, His Highness has thought it advisable to postpone fixing definitively the term of the Concession. It is, however, probable that the Egyptian Government, when formally concluding the contract, instead of accepting the term proposed in your Lordship's telegram of the 3rd instant, viz., that of the Concession to the Canal Company, will prefer to adopt the term of the Concession now held by the Eastern Telegraph Company.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

No. 209.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 7, 6:50 P.M.)

(No. 311.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 7, 1882, 1:56 P.M.

I ASKED Saïd Pasha yesterday whether the French were persuading him from accepting the Military Convention. He told me that he did not know what they might be doing in other quarters, but that, as far as he knew, the French Ambassador had made no representations against it.

No. 210.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 7.)

(No. 734. Confidential. Ext. 311.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 7, 1882.

IN speaking yesterday to Saïd Pasha, I asked his Excellency whether the French were persuading him from accepting the Military Convention. He told me that he

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did not know what they might be doing in other quarters, but that, as far as he knew, M. de Noailles had made no representations against it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 211.

*Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.**

(No. 497.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 7, 1882.

FOLLOWING telegram has been sent to Admiral at Suez:—
"We are acting in support of Viceroy against rebels. Do everything in his name, and make it plain that we have not taken possession for ourselves."

No. 212.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.†

(No. 944. Ext. 556.)

Foreign Office, August 7, 1882.

My Lord,

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith copy of a telegram which has been sent to the Admiral at Suez relative to the occupation of that place.‡

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 213.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

E
(No. 234. Confidential.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, August 7, 1882.

THE Austrian Chargé d'Affaires called upon me this afternoon and delivered to me a confidential message of a very friendly character from Count Kálnoky.

His Excellency states that he has always acknowledged the paramount interest which Great Britain has in Egypt; and he not only admits that we cannot draw back from our present position, but he gives us his best wishes for our success, having perfect reliance in our assurances that we have no ambitious views, and that the final settlement of the question will be reserved for agreement among the European Powers.

Count Kálnoky says he is aware that it is necessary for us to take precautions as regards the action of Turkey. At the same time his Excellency trusts that we shall come to an arrangement with the Porte, as without it the state of things might become extremely complicated, and, indeed, might end in the destruction of the Ottoman Empire, for which no one is prepared. He adds that so long as the Conference is in its present state, neither dead nor alive, it is difficult for Austria to abandon her position of standing by the identic note; if she were to do so the result might be to drive the Porte into the arms of Russia.

I requested M. de Hengelmüller to offer my best thanks to Count Kálnoky. I said that we were endeavouring to come to terms with Turkey, and that it was absolutely necessary for us to know whether she would act honestly by us.

The Porte had now announced their intention of accepting the conditions of the identic note in Conference to-morrow. We felt ourselves obliged to insist on the Proclamation against Arabi, in favour of which all the other Powers had also expressed themselves, and on a Military Convention. We were informed that the Turkish Ministers were favourably disposed towards us, but the Sultan's demeanour was still doubtful.

As regards our future policy in Egypt, it had undergone no change, and we intended to adhere loyally to the declarations which we had already made on the subject.

M. de Hengelmüller said that Austria wished to remain in the background, but in an attitude entirely friendly to England; she was anxious, however, to avoid the difficulties to which a quarrel with Turkey might give rise.

* Also to Sir E. Thornton (No. 279), Viscount Lyons (No. 556), Sir A. Paget (No. 303), Lord Ampthill (No. 281), Sir H. Elliot (No. 280), and Mr. Cartwright (No. 400).

† Also to Sir A. Paget (No. 268. Ext. No. 303).

‡ Inclosure in No. 194.

I answered that it was in our interest to be on good terms with Turkey, both in regard to this Egyptian question and on general grounds in other matters. We wished to maintain the *status quo* of the Ottoman Empire. We only desired to secure the necessary conditions as regards Egypt. Even in case of our not succeeding for the moment in this, there was no reason why the failure should lead to hostile action on the part of the two Powers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 214.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Walsham.

E
(No. 340. Confidential.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, August 7, 1882.

THE German Chargé d'Affaires called upon me this morning, and, in course of conversation with respect to the Suez Canal, said that there seemed to be some misunderstanding as to the Italian proposal. It was only meant to be of a provisional character.

I said I was glad to understand this, but that even considering it as a provisional arrangement, it seemed to me that there would be practical difficulties in adopting it. We doubted whether the safety of the Canal could be ensured without military occupation of some points on the banks, and if the danger is imminent, as we believe to be the case from the information we have just received that Arabi Pasha is massing troops near it, there would be great loss of time in referring each special measure to the Conference. I added that it was not necessary for me to repeat to Prince Bismarck that Her Majesty's Government have no intention of assuming the exclusive possession of the Canal, as seems to be suspected in some quarters.

Herr Stumm asked me whether I had any further information as to the attitude of the Porte.

I said that I understood that the Turkish Plenipotentiaries were now prepared to announce to the Conference their acceptance of the conditions laid down in the identic note. We felt it necessary, however, to continue to insist on the issue of a Proclamation against Arabi Pasha, as advocated also by all the other Powers, and on the conclusion of a proper Military Convention before Turkish troops were landed in Egypt.

Herr Stumm concluded by apologizing for speaking to me in regard to the Suez Canal without any instructions from his Government to do so.

I said that I should always be happy to receive from him any confidential suggestions or communications.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 215.

Said Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by Musurus Pasha, August 8.)

Constantinople, le 7 Août, 1882.

(Télégraphique.)

REÇU télégramme du 4.

Nous avons pris acte avec satisfaction des assurances formelles et sincères que Lord Granville a bien voulu vous exprimer cette fois encore sur les sentiments et les dispositions bienveillants du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique à l'égard de l'Empire dans la question Égyptienne.

Sa Seigneurie peut être certaine que nous attachons un grand prix à ce témoignage de sa part, et que, de notre côté, nos vues et nos intentions sont toujours les mêmes, à savoir: le maintien du Khédive et du *statu quo* en Égypte.

Pour donner une nouvelle preuve de son esprit de conciliation et de sa déférence au vœu du Cabinet de St. James, le Gouvernement Impérial a décidé de faire la Proclamation concernant le maintien du Khédive et déclarant rebelle Arabi Pasha.

J'ai également remis aujourd'hui, au nom de la Sublime Porte, à la Conférence, notre adhésion à la déclaration proposée par celle-ci, et qui énonce l'acceptation, pure et simple, des dispositions de la note qui nous a été remise le 15 Juillet dernier par les Ambassadeurs des Grandes Puissances.

Je suis, enfin, chargé d'arrêter avec le Représentant de Sa Majesté Britannique les bases d'une Convention militaire.

Veuillez communiquer sans retard ce qui précède à Lord Granville, qui saura, nous aimons à l'espérer, apprécier à sa juste valeur la détermination précitée que la Sublime Porte vient de prendre dans l'intérêt général, et en vue de faciliter le retour du calme en Égypte.

No. 216.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8.)

(No. 24.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 7, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report that, in answer to a telegram received from his father, dated Ismailia, the 4th August, copy of which is herewith inclosed, M. Charles de Lesseps called an extraordinary meeting of the Council of Administration the following day.

At this meeting, at which I was present, M. Charles de Lesseps stated that the President of the Company very naturally looked to the Council for support and approval of the attitude he had taken up in defence of what he termed the neutrality of the Canal.

After giving an account, drawn from private information, of the events that had taken place of late on the Canal, he proposed the Resolution herewith inclosed, and invited an unanimous vote in its favour.

I stated that, for my part, being without instructions from London, I was unable to speak as to the views of Her Majesty's Government on the question of the neutrality of the Canal.

I remarked that it was a question on which great divergence of opinion appeared to prevail among the various Powers of Europe; that whereas M. Charles de Lesseps had cited the French and German Governments as having respected the neutrality of the Canal during the Franco-German war, yet, but a few days since, the French Government had proposed to land troops at Port Saïd and to occupy the northern half of the Canal, and the Commandant of the German vessel of war stationed at Port Saïd had actually landed some of his crew for the protection of German subjects there. In both these cases, then, either the Powers mentioned did not respect the neutrality of the Canal, or did not consider the landing of troops a violation of that neutrality.

I concluded by saying that I should vote against the Resolution.

M. Charles de Lesseps, in reply, observed that he understood my remarks as coming from me in my official capacity of Representative of Great Britain, and not as a Director of the Suez Canal Company, but he declined entering into a discussion of the question from a political point of view.

After some slight modification of words in the text, owing to remarks made by other members present, the Resolution, as I have the honour to forward it, was put to the vote and carried; an order being given for its communication to M. Ferdinand de Lesseps by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. J. STANDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 216.

Count de Lesseps to M. C. de Lesseps.

(Télégraphique.)

Ismailia, le 4 Août, 1882, 8:40 A.M.

AMIRAL Anglais, Port Saïd, m'écrit qu'il est décidé à prendre, malgré mes protestations, telle mesure qu'il jugera nécessaire pour occuper le Canal. Il donne à cette occupation le prétexte de la protection, et pour faire cesser mon opposition, il me communique une lettre du Khédive qui lui donne tout pouvoir pour agir sur Canal. Je lui déclare que le Canal ne court aucun danger de la part d'Arabi, qui m'a donné jusqu'à présent de nombreuses preuves d'humanité, et qu'une occupation Anglaise du Canal, loin de protéger la navigation, ne peut que la compromettre en donnant à Arabi l'exemple de la violation de la neutralité du Canal, qu'il a respectée jusqu'ici.

Je suis décidé à m'opposer à tout acte de guerre par le Canal.

Je te prie de réunir le Conseil immédiatement.

Inclosure 2 in No. 216.

Resolution adopted at an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of the Suez Canal Company, August 5, 1882.

LE Conseil réuni extraordinairement aujourd'hui a pris la Résolution suivante:—

“Le Khédive, dont le pouvoir n'a pas été jugé suffisant pour réunir, sans l'autorisation du Sultan, la Méditerranée à la Mer Rouge, ne peut avoir une autorité plus étendue lorsqu'il s'agit de porter atteinte aux stipulations formelles du texte de la Concession.

“L'accord même des auteurs de la Concession ne pourrait modifier l'engagement solennel qu'ils ont contracté envers le monde entier en déclarant la neutralité du Canal de Suez.

“Le maintien de cette neutralité jusqu'ici respectée, et qui exclue tout acte de guerre dans le Canal, constitue pour la Compagnie une obligation qui est la base de sa Concession.

“Notre Compagnie Égyptienne ne saurait se prêter à une violation d'une neutralité qui est la garantie de commerce de toutes les nations.

“Aucun Gouvernement n'amènerait le Conseil d'Administration à accepter la responsabilité d'actes préjudiciables à toutes les nationalités intéressées à la liberté permanente de la navigation dans le Canal de Suez.

“Notre Société, purement commerciale, ne peut qu'opposer la proclamation de ces principes à d'injustifiables prétentions politiques.

“Le Conseil s'associe donc, hautement, au nom du droit menacé, aux protestations de son Président.

“Il exprime sa gratitude à M. Ferdinand de Lesseps et à tout le personnel de la Compagnie.”

No. 217.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 8.)

My Lord,

Admiralty, August 7, 1882.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (with reference to your letter of the 5th instant respecting the hoisting of the British flag at Suez by Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett), copy of the telegram sent to him on the subject on the 5th instant, and of his reply, dated the 6th instant.

2. My Lords desire me to request you will state to Earl Granville that they propose to approve Sir William Hewett's action in the matter.

3. The Egyptian colours are understood to be identical with the Turkish ensign.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 217.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett.

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, August 5, 1882, 7:40 P.M.

WE are acting in support of Viceroy against rebels; do everything in his name, and make it plain that we have not taken possession for ourselves.

Turkish Ambassador has complained of hoisting British and Egyptian flags.

We think you were right, but explain circumstances.

Inclosure 2 in No. 217.

Sir W. Hewett to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.)

Suez, August 6, 1882, 6:1 P.M.

SUNDAY.—On landing found no Egyptian colour flying.* [? After] explaining to Acting Governor that the British were acting in the interest of, and with the full

* One group between “flying” and “explaining” not intelligible. The message may read: “no Egyptian colours flying anywhere. Explained to Acting Governor, &c.” or as above.

consent of, the Viceroy, hoisted British and Egyptian colours side by side on the same mast, which has had the desired effect of greatly reassuring the people.

No. 218.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 8.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of a Confidential despatch addressed to Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour in regard to his position at Alexandria on the return of Sir E. Malet; also conveying the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the manner in which he has exercised the special authority temporarily confided to him, and defining the future arrangements proposed as regards the work of the navy in connection with the Egyptian military expedition.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

Inclosure in No. 218.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to state that, by the instructions conveyed in telegram of the 10th July, you were informed that the military officer upon whom the command of Her Majesty's forces at Alexandria would devolve would take his instructions from you, as the Representative of Her Majesty's Government; and on the 21st July you were further informed, by telegraph, that Her Majesty's Government desired it to be understood that, while Major-General Sir Archibald Alison had no authority to undertake operations beyond the police protection and the defence of Alexandria without your instructions, the responsibility for the feasibility of any such operation in a military point of view, and for the manner of carrying it out, rested with the Major-General.

2. The circumstances which occasioned these orders will cease to exist on the return of Sir Edward Malet, Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General in Egypt, to Alexandria; and my Lords desire me to acquaint you that the special authority conferred upon you by the telegrams which have been quoted will cease upon his arrival.

3. In making this communication, I am to convey to you the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the manner in which you have exercised that special authority, and to express their satisfaction at the harmony which has prevailed between the naval and military authorities at Alexandria.

4. Lieutenant-General Sir Garnet Wolseley has left England for Egypt in the steam-transport "Calabria." It has been arranged with the Secretary of State for War that the responsibility for the maintenance of the base of the operations for the purpose of repressing the rebellion against His Highness the Khedive, so far as regards the movement of troops from the Suez Canal, will rest with Her Majesty's navy; and my Lords rely upon you, Rear-Admiral Hoskins, and the officers under your command to perform this service effectively, and to give to the Lieutenant-General every assistance in your power.

5. This arrangement will include the holding by Her Majesty's navy of the positions of Kantara and Port Saïd, as well as of Suez, until a sufficient force arrives from Bombay for that purpose.

The protection of Ismaïlia will rest with Her Majesty's army.

6. A copy of the instructions given to Sir Garnet Wolseley, for your confidential information, will be forwarded by next mail.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

No. 219.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 8 A.M.)

(No. 314.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 7, 1882, 11.45 P.M.

WE agreed to send the following identic telegram to our Governments:—

"At the 14th sitting, held to-day, we signed the following Protocol:—

"[Here begins the Protocol.]

"The Ottoman Delegates made the following declaration to the Conference:—

"The Sublime Porte accepts the invitation for military intervention in Egypt, made to it by the identic note of the 15th July, as well as the clauses and conditions contained therein."

"The above declaration was accepted by the Conference.

"In witness whereof the Plenipotentiaries have signed the said Protocol.

"Signatures follow.

"[End of Protocol.]"

The next meeting is fixed for Wednesday the 9th instant.

No. 220.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 8.)

(No. 737. Ext. 314.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 7, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of the identic telegram we agreed to send our respective Governments after the fourteenth meeting of the Egyptian Conference.

I have, &c.
(For the Earl of Dufferin),
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure in No. 220.

Identic Telegram sent to the Six Powers after the Fourteenth Meeting of the Egyptian Conference, August 7, 1882.

À LA quatorzième séance aujourd'hui nous avons signé le Protocole suivant:—

"Messieurs les Délégués Ottomans ont fait à la Conférence la Déclaration suivante:—

"La Sublime Porte accepte l'invitation d'intervenir militairement en Égypte qui lui a été adressé par la note identique du 15 Juillet, ainsi que les clauses et conditions qui s'y trouvent énumérées.

"La susdite déclaration a été acceptée par la Conférence.

"En foi de quoi MM. les Plénipotentiaires ci-dessus nommés ont signé le présent Protocole.

(Suivent les signatures.)

"La prochaine séance a été fixée pour Jeudi."

No. 221.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 8 A.M.)

(No. 315.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 7, 1882, 11.50 P.M.

THE Proclamation has been drawn up, and I am promised a translation to-morrow.

No. 222.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 8.)

(No. 738. Confidential. Ext. 315.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 7, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Proclamation declaring Arabi a rebel has been drawn up, and that I am promised a translation of it by to-morrow.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 223.

Vice-Consul Maling to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 12.45 P.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Dardanelles, August 8, 1882, noon.

TWO more troop-ships for Egypt have passed with 300 Circassian cavalry, 3 field batteries, and 2 batteries of mountain guns complete.

No. 224.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 498.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 8, 1882, 2.35 P.M.

AS the Porte seems to be preparing a draft of Military Convention, we might wait to see their proposals before putting forward any project of our own. Telegraph if you see reasons for a different course.

No. 225.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 472. Ext. 498.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 8, 1882.

AS the Porte appears to be preparing the draft of a military Convention, it might, Her Majesty's Government are inclined to think, be advisable to await the proposals of the Turkish Government before putting forward any project on the part of this country; but if any reasons should occur to you for recommending that a different course should be pursued, I request that your Excellency will inform me by telegraph.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 226.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 499.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 8, 1882, 2.45 P.M.

MUSURUS has announced to me the intention to make the proclamation. Have you got the terms?

No. 227.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 473. Ext. 499.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 8, 1882.

THE Turkish Ambassador has announced to me that it is the intention of the Porte to make a Proclamation of the nature demanded by Her Majesty's Government.

I have to request your Excellency to inform me whether the terms of such a Proclamation have been communicated to you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 228.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 3.50 P.M.)

(No. 316.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 8, 1882, 11 A.M.

TWO transports left this last night with stores and troops for Suda Bay; 3 batteries field and 2 batteries mountain artillery, with 250 horses and 50 mules; also 2 squadrons cavalry, with 300 horses, and about 1,000 infantry.

Preparations are maturing for the assembly of the second brigade, 5,000 men, which will be taken from the Adrianople district.

No. 229.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 5.20 P.M.)

(No. 388.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 8, 1882, 4 P.M.

KHEDIVE has authorized arrangement concluded between Eastern Telegraph and Canal Companies, modifying only the term as stated in my telegram No. 387 of yesterday. I learn from local manager of Telegraph Company that his Chairman will accept this modification. Ship leaves this afternoon to lay down cable.

No. 230.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 8.)

(No. 521. Ext. 388.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 8, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 519 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Khedive has confirmed the Agreement concluded between the Eastern Telegraph and the Suez Canal Companies respecting their rights over the telegraph cable to be laid down from Alexandria to Suez via Port Saïd, the limit of time being restricted to the period of their present Concession, as mentioned in my despatch above referred to.

The local Manager of the Telegraph Company has informed me that Mr. Pender will accept this modification.

The work of laying the cable will be commenced at once by the ship which has arrived at Alexandria for the purpose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

No. 231.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 5.25 P.M.)

(No. 389.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 8, 1882, 5 P.M.

RETURN of fugitives is constant and increasing, among them many of lowest character, whose presence in Alexandria at present is especially undesirable. I have intimated to the several Consuls-General that in the interests of public security the local authorities and the Admiral, acting on behalf of Khedive, must exercise a discretion as to the persons allowed to re-enter town. I have requested them to take what measures they may consider necessary, and to inform their Governments, pointing out that, in the present state of water supply, apart from other considerations, return of Europeans is most undesirable.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 8.)

(No. 522. Ext. 389.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 8, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the constant influx of Europeans returning to Alexandria is daily increasing, and that among them are many persons of the lowest class, whose presence in Alexandria, in the existing state of affairs, is especially undesirable. I have intimated to the Representatives of the several Powers, in a note, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy herewith, that the police authorities will, in the interest of public security, exercise discretion as to the persons that shall be permitted to enter the town. I have at the same time requested them to take what steps they may consider necessary for the attainment of this object, and to inform their respective Governments of the condition of affairs, pointing out that, in the present state of anxiety respecting the water supply, apart from other considerations, the return of such large numbers of Europeans is most undesirable.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure in No. 232.

Mr. Cartwright to the Foreign Agents at Alexandria.

M. l'Agent et Consul-Général,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 9, 1882.

THE number of Europeans returning to Alexandria has attracted the observation of the English Chief of Police.

In the present state of the town it is considered most undesirable that the population should be largely increased; and the difficulty of providing water, which is now engaging the attention of the Egyptian and English authorities, renders it necessary that some effort should be made to check the continued influx from abroad.

I have the honour to request you to give your assistance by taking such measures as you may deem most advisable and effective, as, for instance, to inform the Government and their Consuls at the principal ports in the Levant.

Steps are also being taken to prevent the return of notoriously bad characters to Alexandria, and it is hoped that the Consuls will co-operate with the European police, who are charged with the duty of inspecting the passports of all persons arriving in the port.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

No. 233.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 500.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 8, 1882, 5:30 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 302 of 5th instant.

Her Majesty's Government approve your language to Minister of Foreign Affairs respecting conditions on which Turkish troops will be allowed to land in Egypt.

No. 234.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 474. Ext. 500.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 8, 1882.

I HAVE received your telegram No. 302 of the 5th instant, and I have to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the language which, as reported in that telegram, you used to the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs when informing his Excellency of the conditions under which Ottoman troops will be allowed to land in Egypt.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 501.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 8, 1882, 5:35 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 306 of 6th instant.

Her Majesty's Government approve your language in Conference on Count Corti's proposal respecting Suez Canal.

No. 236.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 475. Ext. 501.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 8, 1882.

HER Majesty's Government have had before them your telegram No. 306 of the 5th instant, giving an account of what passed in Conference on that day with respect to the proposal made, on behalf of the Italian Government, by Count Corti, regarding the protection of the Suez Canal.

The language which your Excellency used on that occasion has the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 237.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

E

(No. 484.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 8, 1882.

THE Turkish Ambassador communicated to me to-day the telegram from the Porte of which I inclose a copy.* It states that the Imperial Government has decided to issue a Proclamation respecting the maintenance of the Khedive and declaring Arabi Pasha a rebel, that it has fully accepted the terms of the identic note of the 15th ultimo, and that the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs has been authorized to settle with your Excellency the bases of a Military Convention.

I asked Musurus Pasha whether he understood the telegram to mean that the Proclamation would be issued at once, and he replied that certainly he considered it a finished affair, provided, his Excellency went on to say, that the Military Convention should be settled in a manner compatible with the sovereignty of the Sultan and satisfactory for both parties.

I then asked his Excellency whether he could tell me what were the terms of the Convention proposed by the Porte. His Excellency said he could not do so, as he had not received the information, but he was convinced that the Porte would desire to meet the wishes of this country. The Porte desired to be in perfect understanding with Her Majesty's Government.

I thanked Musurus Pasha for the communication which he had made to me, and I told him that I would immediately inform my colleagues of it.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 7 P.M.)

(No. 179.)
(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 8, 1882, 5:15 P.M.

THE new Cabinet has made a declaration to the Chamber this afternoon. The following is the passage about Egypt:—

“En refusant les crédits nécessaires à l'occupation d'une partie du Canal de Suez, la Chambre a pris mesure de réserve et prudence qui n'est point une abdication. Le Gouvernement s'inspirera de la pensée qui est dictée par ce vote, et y conformera sa conduite. Si des événements survenaient qui parussent engager les intérêts ou l'honneur de la France, nous nous empresserions de convoquer les Chambres, et leur soumettre les résolutions que les circonstances commanderaient.”

No. 239.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 502. Secret.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 8, 1882, 7:10 P.M.

A REPORT has reached me that Ismail Pasha, now in Paris, says that Prince Bismarck has advised the Sultan, as a compromise of the various interests, to place Prince Halim in command of the Turkish force proceeding to Egypt.

No. 240.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 7:25 P.M.)

(No. 317.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 8, 1882, 2:10 P.M.

M. DE LESSEPS is constantly sending telegrams to Constantinople, which are submitted to the Sultan, and make a considerable impression on his mind.

No. 241.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 8.)

(No. 744. Confidential. Ext. 317.)
My Lord,

Therapia, August 8, 1882.

I LEARN that M. de Lesseps is constantly sending mischievous telegrams to Constantinople, which are submitted to the Sultan, and make a considerable impression upon His Majesty's mind.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 242.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 7:15 P.M.)

(No. 318.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 8, 1882, 2:15 P.M.

SAID PASHA stated at the Conference yesterday that the first detachment of Turkish troops would consist of 6,300 men. There appears to be a tendency to make preparations for the eventual dispatch to Egypt of a larger number of troops than the 12,000 originally mentioned by Saïd Pasha.

Major Trotter is sending a full report by messenger.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 8.)

(No. 745. Confidential. Ext. 318.)
My Lord,

Therapia, August 8, 1882.

AT the meeting of the Conference yesterday Saïd Pasha stated that the first detachment of Turkish troops would consist of 6,300 men. There appears to be a tendency to make preparations for the eventual dispatch to Egypt of a larger number of troops than the 12,000 originally mentioned by his Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 244.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 7:20 P.M.)

(No. 319.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 8, 1882, 3:20 P.M.

WITH reference to Sir A. Paget's telegram No. 94 of the 6th August, Count Corti, to whom I mentioned Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs' allusions to the secret negotiations going on between me and the Porte, has authorized me to assure your Lordship that he [? never] reported that such secret negotiations were being conducted; he had not the slightest reason to suppose any were on foot.

As our best chance of carrying Europe with us in the mission which we are accomplishing in Egypt is to be extremely frank and above-board, I have made it a point of acquainting my colleagues with the utmost openness of everything that was passing between the Porte and myself.

No. 245.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 8.)

(No. 746. Confidential. Ext. 319.)
My Lord,

Therapia, August 8, 1882.

WITH reference to Sir A. Paget's telegram No. 94 of the 6th instant, repeated to me in your Lordship's telegram No. 497 of the following day, Count Corti, to whom I mentioned M. Mancini's allusions to the secret negotiations going on between myself and the Porte, has authorized me to assure your Lordship that he has never reported that such secret negotiations were being carried on, inasmuch as he had not the slightest reason for supposing that any were on foot.

As our best chance of carrying Europe with England in the mission she is accomplishing in Egypt is to be perfectly frank, I have made it a point to acquaint my colleagues with the utmost openness of everything that was passing between the Sublime Porte and myself.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 246.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 9:30 P.M.)

(No. 85.)
(Telegraphic.)

Vienna, August 8, 1882, 6:25 P.M.

THE Austrian iron-clads "Archduke Albert," the "Saida," and the corvette "Minerva" are lying off Trieste. I have not been able to ascertain anything about the other ships.

No. 247.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 8.)

(No. 405. Ext. 85.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 8, 1882.

THE only information that I have been able to obtain respecting the Austrian ships of war is that the iron-clad "Archduke Albert," the "Saida," and the wooden corvette "Minerva," are at present lying at Trieste.

Mr. Consul St. John states that no ship has been seen at Ragusa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 248.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 9:30 P.M.)

(No. 86.)

(Telegraphic.)

Vienna, August 8, 1882, 6:2 P.M.

THE Austrian Chargé d'Affaires has informed his Minister of your Lordship's objections to the Italian proposal about the Suez Canal.

His Excellency admits that a mere marine patrol might possibly not be sufficient to protect it, but he never contemplated that any special case was to be referred to the Conference.

He continues to be most anxious that the Conference should come to an arrangement upon this matter.

The Turks having now accepted the note of the 15th July, if the protection of the Canal could be provided for, he thinks that the Conference might adjourn till order had been restored in Egypt, and the reorganization had to be taken into consideration.

When I asked whether he would propose such an adjournment, he answered that he would hardly like to take the initiative, but it seemed a natural consequence of the position that the Conference should say that what remained immediately to be done lies now between England and Turkey, and that its further meetings had therefore become unnecessary.

No. 249.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 8.)

(No. 407. Ext. 86.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 8, 1882.

COUNT KÁLNOKY tells me that M. Hengelmüller has informed him of the objections to which your Lordship considered the proposal of the Italian Government about the Suez Canal to be open.

His Excellency admits the justice of your Lordship's remark, that a mere maritime patrol might possibly afford an insufficient protection; but as regards the apprehended loss of time in referring each special case to the Conference, he says that he had not contemplated the adoption of that course.

Count Kálnoky is most anxious that an arrangement of this matter should be arrived at, as, the Porte having now fully adopted the invitation as made in the note of the 15th ultimo, he considers that the Conference might be indefinitely adjourned till after order had been restored in Egypt, and the work of reorganization had to be taken into consideration.

Upon my asking whether he would propose the adjournment, he said that he was hardly disposed to take the initiative; but as the work to be immediately done now lay between England and Turkey, the position of affairs pointed naturally to the inutility of further meetings of the Conference.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 250.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8, 9:30 P.M.)

(No. 76. Confidential.)

(Telegraphic.)

Berlin, August 8, 1882, 6:20 P.M.

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 277 of yesterday.

In alluding to-day to the Italian proposal for the protection of the Suez Canal, Count Hatzfeldt said there was no longer any difference of opinion as to the proposal having reference to a temporary and not to a permanent arrangement. He believed, however, that Her Majesty's Government had other objections to the proposal.

I said that this was no doubt the case, and I confidentially instanced some of those which it was considered might be made even to the plan as a provisional measure.

His Excellency then informed me that, through the German Chargé d'Affaires, he had already submitted, for your Lordship's consideration, whether it might not be advisable for Her Majesty's Government to formulate their further objections, and suggest how they could best be met.

No. 251.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 8.)

(No. 311. Confidential. Ext. 76.)

My Lord,

Berlin, August 8, 1882.

COUNT HATZFELDT assured me to-day that, as regards what is now known as the Italian proposal for the protection of the Suez Canal, there did not exist the slightest difference of opinion amongst the Powers as to the interpretation to be given to the project. The proposed arrangement was to be considered as a temporary, not a permanent measure.

His Excellency said, however, that, from what the German Chargé d'Affaires in London had told him, Her Majesty's Government appeared to have objections to offer to the Italian plan other than those relating to its duration, which had been satisfactorily settled.

I explained, confidentially, to Count Hatzfeldt that no doubt the plan was open to objections even as a provisional measure, and I instanced some of them.

His Excellency then informed me that he had instructed M. Stumm to submit to your Lordship, for consideration, whether, in view of these further objections, it might not be advantageous for Her Majesty's Government to suggest a way of overcoming them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 252.

Said Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by Musurus Pasha, August 9.)

(Télégraphique.)

Constantinople, le 8 Août, 1882.

JE viens d'adresser à son Excellence Lord Dufferin la note suivante :—

"J'ai l'honneur de faire savoir à votre Excellence que la Sublime Porte est disposée à faire une Proclamation énonçant le maintien de Son Altesse le Khédive et déclarant rebelle Arabi Pacha, et qu'elle vient de me charger de négocier avec votre Excellence une Convention Militaire.

"J'ai également l'honneur de vous prévenir, M. l'Ambassadeur, que, en raison de l'importance que prennent les événements en Égypte, les troupes Ottomanes vont se mettre en route Jeudi prochain, le 10 Août, pour se rendre sur les lieux.

"Je prie, &c.

(Signé) "SAID."

No. 253.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 9, 8 A.M.)

(No. 320.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 8, 1882, 8:30 P.M.

I HAVE received an official *note verbale* from the Porte, saying that the Ottoman Government is prepared to issue a Proclamation in support of the Khedive and declaring Arabi a rebel, and that the Minister for Foreign Affairs is instructed to negotiate a Military Convention with me. The note also contains an announcement that the Ottoman troops will be put in motion next Thursday.

At the same time, Saïd Pasha asked me to come and see him to-morrow, and begged me to remember that it would take a week from Thursday for the troops to arrive, during which period everything could be arranged that the British Government desired. I have already told him, each time I have seen him, that no Ottoman troops will be allowed to land in Egypt until Her Majesty's Government are satisfied in regard to the Proclamation and the Convention.

To-morrow I intend, if possible, to make still stronger representations to him in the same sense. I do not see that I can say anything more peremptory.

I hope to be able to telegraph the Proclamation to you to-morrow afternoon.

Saïd Pasha excused himself for not letting me have the text to-day, as he had promised, on the plea of an alteration having had to be introduced into it; but he has given a most positive assurance that it shall be in my hands before 2 P.M. to-morrow.

I have telegraphed to Admiral Seymour that he must now begin to be on the look-out for Turkish transports.

No. 254.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 9.)

(No. 747. Confidential. Ext. 320.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 8, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a note I have received from the Sublime Porte stating that the Ottoman Government is prepared to issue a Proclamation in support of the Khedive, and declaring Arabi Pasha a rebel, and that the Minister for Foreign Affairs is instructed to negotiate a Military Convention with me. The note also contains an announcement that the Ottoman troops will be put in motion on the 10th instant.

Saïd Pasha has asked me to call upon him to-morrow, and begged me to remember that it would take a week from Thursday next, the 10th instant, for the troops to arrive, during which period all the arrangements could be made that Her Majesty's Government desired.

I have already told him each time I have seen him that no Ottoman troops will be allowed to land in Egypt until Her Majesty's Government are satisfied in regard to the Proclamation and the Convention.

I intend to-morrow to make, if possible, still stronger representations to him in the same sense. I do not see that I can say anything more peremptory.

I hope to be able to telegraph the Proclamation to you to-morrow afternoon. Saïd Pasha excused himself for not letting me have the text to-day, as he had promised, on the plea of an alteration having had to be introduced into it; but he has given a most positive assurance that it shall be in my hands before 2 o'clock to-morrow.

I have telegraphed to Admiral Seymour that he must now begin to expect the Turkish transports.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 254.

*Note Verbale.**Sublime Porte, le 8 Août, 1882.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

J'AI l'honneur de faire savoir à votre Excellence que la Sublime Porte est disposée à faire une Proclamation énonçant le maintien de Son Altesse le Khédive et

déclarant rebelle Arabi Pacha, et qu'elle vient de me charger de négocier avec votre Excellence une Convention Militaire.

J'ai également l'honneur de vous prévenir, M. l'Ambassadeur, qu'en raison de l'importance que prennent les événements en Égypte, les troupes Ottomanes vont se mettre en route Jeudi prochain, 10 Août, pour se rendre sur les lieux.

Je prie, &c.
(Signé) SAÏD.

No. 255.

Consul Sandwith to Earl Granville.—(Received August 9, 8 A.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Canea, Crete, August 8, 1882, 9:40 P.M.

FIVE Turkish battalions arrived to-day on board two transports.

No. 256.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 9, 1 P.M.)

(No. 390.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 9, 1882, 11 A.M.

ARABI has sent letters to Sheikh Es-Epioussi at Gebel-el-Akdar, south of Tripoli; he is the most influential Sheikh of the tribes of Barbary. It is supposed that the object of these letters is to cause a rising of the tribes.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 257.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 9.)

(No. 523. Ext. 390.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 9, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that I learn, on good authority, that Arabi Pasha has sent letters to Gebel-el-Akdar, south of Tripoli, for the Sheikh-es-Sanoussi, who is said to be the most influential personage amongst the tribes of Barbary.

It is supposed that these letters are sent with the object of causing a rising of the tribes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

No. 258.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 9, 3 P.M.)

(No. 391.)

(Telegraphic.)

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 9, 1882, 2 P.M.

THE Khedive has proposed to Chérif Pasha to form a new Ministry. Chérif accepts, but wishes the matter treated as confidential till he has selected his colleagues.
(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 259.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 9.)

(No. 525. Confidential. Ext. 391.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 9, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Khedive has proposed to Chérif Pasha that his Excellency should undertake the formation of a new Ministry. Chérif Pasha has accepted the offer of His Highness, but has requested, at the same time,

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that the matter may be treated as confidential until he has had time to select his colleagues.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

No. 260.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 505.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 9, 1882, 5.15 P.M.

GERMAN Chargé d'Affaires asked me yesterday from his Government whether we would make any alternative proposal as to the Suez Canal if we objected to Italian plan.

I have told him this morning that, now that it is understood that the Italian proposal is limited to the present emergency, we have no objection to it provided that it does not prevent us and others from landing troops if a sudden necessity occurs to hold certain posts for the security of the Canal.

It is of course further understood that we retain our entire liberty of action as to such military movements as may be necessary for the support of the Khedive against the rebels under the conditions which have been previously stated.

You may use the same language in Conference.

No. 261.

Consul Sandwith to Earl Granville.—(Received August 9, 5.30 P.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Canea, Crete, August 9, 1882, 1 P.M.

ANOTHER Turkish transport arrived with troops and cavalry.

No. 262.

Earl Granville to Mr. Cartwright.

(No. 406.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 9, 1882, 6 P.M.

INFORM Acting Consul Jago, in reply to his despatch No. 16 of the 26th ultimo, that claimants should themselves take all proper steps to prepare and preserve evidence of their losses.

It is not for British authorities to give advice on that point.

No. 263.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 9, 6 P.M.)

(No. 77.)
(Telegraphic.)

Berlin, August 9, 1882, 4.5 P.M.

THE semi-official "North German Gazette" of this morning, in commenting upon some remarks in the "Morning Post" of the 4th upon the reported desire of the Powers to constitute a Mixed Commission, like the Danube Commission, for the control of the Suez Canal, says that, though not acquainted with the proceedings of the Conference, it is incorrect to assert that all the Powers, with the exception of England, wish to establish such a Commission; if newspapers can be believed, Italy has made a proposal for provisional police, which has nothing to do with a Commission like the Danube Commission, nor with neutralization. Any measure for definitive protection of the Canal would require alteration of Treaties, which the Conference alone could not undertake. If the Conference is occupied with any scheme to protect the Canal, it is because attacks on it by Arabi are feared, and any measures taken will be temporary. No Power has yet expressed a desire to alter the *status quo ante* Arabi, and if any proposal has been made to the Conference, its object is to protect the Canal from possible Mahomedan excesses, and to remove the idea that the Powers are not united. I will send your Lordship a translation of the article by post this evening.

No. 260*.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 485. Ext. 505.)

Foreign Office, August 9, 1882.

My Lord,

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Berlin, giving an account of conversations which I have had with the German Chargé d'Affaires respecting the Italian proposal for the protection of the Suez Canal.*

I have already acquainted your Excellency by telegraph with the substance of this despatch, and have authorized you to hold language in the Conference similar to that which I used to M. Stumm.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 264.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 506.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 9, 1882.

I TELEGRAPH to you the following draft of Military Convention, that you may be in possession of our views, though we await Turkish communication.

The number of men to be sent and place of landing has been left blank.

You should endeavour to arrange that the force should not exceed 5,000 men, and should be landed in Aboukir Bay.

"The army of Egypt having revolted against the authority of His Highness the Khedive, as established under the Firmans of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, and the Treaties existing between the Sublime Porte and other Powers; and Her Majesty the Queen having resolved to co-operate with His Majesty in the suppression of this rebellion and the re-establishment of order, their said Majesties have seen fit to conclude a Convention for the purpose, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries:

* * * * *

"Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

"ARTICLE I.

"His Imperial Majesty the Sultan shall furnish a force of men of all arms, ranks, and services, complete with supplies of ammunition, food, and transport, to co-operate with the force now being dispatched to Egypt by Her Majesty, and shall maintain the same complete in all respects so long as it shall remain in Egypt.

"Should His Imperial Majesty desire at any time to increase his force, it shall be the subject of further agreement between the High Contracting Parties.

"ARTICLE II.

"It being desirable that the place at which the Turkish troops should land should be determined beforehand, it is agreed that they shall disembark .

"ARTICLE III.

"As it is absolutely necessary that the operations to be undertaken should be under one direction, it is agreed that the Turkish troops, after disembarkation, shall make no movement or disposition of any part of the troops without the previous assent of the Commander-in-chief of the British forces.

"ARTICLE IV.

"As soon as the occasion for which the troops of Her Majesty and of the Sultan have been dispatched to Egypt has passed, the troops of both the High Contracting Parties shall evacuate the country.

"The evacuation by the Turkish forces shall be simultaneous with that of the British forces.

"ARTICLE V.

"In order to facilitate the communications between the two armies, it is agreed that an English officer of rank shall be attached as Commissioner to the head-quarters of the Turkish force."

No. 265.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 9.)

THE Secretary of the Admiralty presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram, dated the 8th August, from Admiral Sir B. Seymour to the Earl of Northbrook.

Admiralty, August 9, 1882.

Inclosure in No. 265.

Admiral Sir B. Seymour to the Earl of Northbrook.(Private.)
(Telegraphic.)*Alexandria, August 8, 1882, 8.20 P.M.*

FOLLOWING Khedive's authority to Admiral Hoskins:—

"You are authorized to occupy such points of the Isthmus of Suez as you may deem useful for the free traffic on the Canal, the protection of the towns and populations situated in the neighbourhood of it, and to suppress any force which does not recognize my authority. You are also authorized to take the necessary measures for depriving the rebels of the railway between Ismaïlia and Suez.

(Signed) "MÉHÉMET TEWFIK."

No. 266.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Walsham.

(No. 348.)

Foreign Office, August 9, 1882.

Sir,
WITH reference to your despatch No. 301 of the 31st ultimo reporting your conversation with Count Hatzfeldt, in which his Excellency alluded to the question whether gun-boats patrolling the Suez Canal should be called upon to pay dues, I inclose copy of a letter from the Admiralty,* stating that Her Majesty's ships engaged on this duty have hitherto been instructed to pay the dues in order to avoid any occasion for disagreement with the authorities of the Canal, and giving the views of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty on the point.

I inclose also copy of a letter from the British Directors of the Canal Company,† who are of opinion that, though a claim for exemption might not be unreasonable, it would not be probable that, under present circumstances, it would be favourably viewed by the General Board of Direction.

I have to request you to communicate the latter paper confidentially to Count Hatzfeldt, and to state that Her Majesty's Government are disposed to think that it would not be advisable to raise at present the question of the exemption of men-of-war on patrol duty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 267.

Earl Granville to the British Suez Canal Directors.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 9, 1882.

I HAVE received your despatches Nos. 19 and 22 of the 5th and 7th instant, the first inclosing a copy of a telegram from M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, in which he protests against the measures which may be taken by the British naval authorities for the protection of the Suez Canal, and desires M. Charles de Lesseps to call a meeting of the Council of Administration of the Company; the second forwarding copy of the Resolution passed at the meeting which was in consequence held, confirming the protest of the President of the Company.

Her Majesty's Government approve Mr. Standen abstaining from entering into any discussion of the political question involved, and his having voted against the Resolution.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 266*.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Walsham.

(No. 349.)

Foreign Office, August 9, 1882.

Sir,

THE German Chargé d'Affaires called upon me yesterday, and told me that he was instructed by his Government to inquire what alternative proposal Her Majesty's Government would be disposed to make for the protection of the Suez Canal, if they continued to object to the scheme laid before the Conference by Italy.

M. Stumm called upon me again this morning, at my request, to receive my answer.

I told him that now that it was understood that the Italian proposal is limited to the present emergency, we have no objection to it, provided that it does not prevent us and other Powers from landing troops, if a sudden necessity arises, to hold certain posts for the security of the Canal.

I added that it is of course further understood that we retain our entire liberty of action as to such military movements as may be necessary for the support of the Khedive against the rebels, under the conditions which have been already laid down in regard to intervention for that purpose.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 268.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 9, 10.30 P.M.)

(No. 321.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 9, 1882, 2.45 P.M.

THE following is the text of the proposed Proclamation:—

“You are all aware that His Majesty the Sultan has deigned to confide the Khedivate of Egypt to His Highness Tewfik Pasha, in accordance with privileges granted by Imperial Firmans; that His Highness being the direct representative of the Empire in the administration of Egyptian affairs, his orders must be obeyed, and that every act contrary thereto involves responsibility.

“Now, Arabi Pasha, in opposition to the explicit rules of the Cheri and of the Law, has been criminal enough to attack the prerogatives and attributions of the Administration, thus giving rise to foreign interference by shaking the confidence of the country and by making military preparations in presence of the ships of war of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, an ancient friend of the Empire.

“He has dared to disobey the sovereign orders which forbade the preparations upon causing to be besieged the second time the residence of His Highness the Khedive, and by persisting in his acts, without taking into account wise counsels given in conformity with faith, the Turkish Government Cheri, and the exigencies of the situation—counsels which the Imperial Commissioners, who were sent to the spot in sovereign course, did not cease to offer him. Further, Arabi Pasha, by instituting on his own account an Administration in Egypt, has thereby declared himself the enemy of the local authorities legally constituted, and violating the principle of the safe keeping of the rights of the country with regard to the foreigner—principle which appertains to the attributions of the Imperial Ottoman Government—has dared to interfere with these high attributions, and thus to impose upon the good faith of the Egyptian population, at any rate of some persons who are ignorant of the state of affairs. Whereas His Highness the Khedive is one of the highest dignitaries of the Empire, possessing the confidence of His Imperial Majesty, it is indispensable to maintain intact both his rank and his prestige, and to guard in every way the authority and the privileges with which he is invested by virtue of the stipulations of the Imperial Firmans.

“The acts, therefore, which Arabi Pasha has dared to commit with reference to His Highness constitute a flagrant violation of the supreme will of His Majesty the Sultan.

“As soon as Arabi Pasha, notwithstanding the crimes enumerated, and which were of a nature to call for the most severe punishment, appealed to the Khedive and implored, through His Highness, the pardon and clemency of His Imperial Majesty, professing repentance and apparent loyalty, he became the object of numerous favours; but he soon did not appreciate these acts of kindness, persisting in his reprehensible and illegal conduct, and raising the standard of revolt.

“Consequently, Arabi Pasha is considered a rebel in the eyes of the Imperial Government.

“Let no one ignore, on this occasion, that the Ottoman Government is resolved and anxiously desires to maintain the influence and the privileges of His Highness the Khedive. The present Proclamation has therefore been issued in order that all may conform with this supreme decision.”

With reference to allusion to “foreign interference” in the second paragraph, Saïd Pasha observed that England was not meant, as two lines lower down England was referred to as a friend.

No. 269.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 9.)

(No. 748. Confidential. Ext. 321.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 9, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the Proclamation the Sultan proposes to issue denouncing Arabi Pasha as a rebel.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 269.

Draft Proclamation.

YOU are all aware that His Majesty the Sultan has deigned to confide the Khedivate of Egypt to His Highness Tewfik Pasha, in accordance with privileges granted by Imperial Firmans; that His Highness being the direct representative of the Empire in the administration of Egyptian affairs, his orders must be obeyed, and that every act contrary thereto involves responsibility.

Now, Arabi Pasha, in opposition to the explicit rules of the Cheri and of the Law, has been criminal enough to attack the prerogatives and attributions of the Administration, thus giving rise to foreign interference by shaking the confidence of the country and by making military preparations in presence of the ships of war of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, an ancient friend of the Empire.

He has dared to disobey the sovereign orders which forbade the preparations upon causing to be besieged the second time the residence of His Highness the Khedive, and by persisting in his acts, without taking into account wise counsels given in conformity with faith, the Turkish Government Cheri, and the exigencies of the situation—counsels which the Imperial Commissioners, who were sent to the spot in sovereign course, did not cease to offer him. Further, Arabi Pasha, by instituting on his own account an Administration in Egypt, has thereby declared himself the enemy of the local authorities legally constituted, and violating the principle of the safe keeping of the rights of the country with regard to the foreigner—principle which appertains to the attributions of the Imperial Ottoman Government—has dared to interfere with these high attributions, and thus to impose upon the good faith of the Egyptian population, at any rate, of some persons who are ignorant of the state of affairs. Whereas His Highness the Khedive is one of the highest dignitaries of the Empire, possessing the confidence of His Imperial Majesty, it is indispensable to maintain intact both his rank and his prestige, and to guard in every way the authority and the privileges with which he is invested by virtue of the stipulations of the Imperial Firmans.

The acts, therefore, which Arabi Pasha has dared to commit with reference to His Highness constitute a flagrant violation of the supreme will of His Majesty the Sultan.

As soon as Arabi Pasha, notwithstanding the crimes enumerated, and which were of a nature to call for the most severe punishment, appealed to the Khedive and implored, through His Highness, the pardon and clemency of His Imperial Majesty, professing repentance and apparent loyalty, he became the object of numerous favours; but he soon did not appreciate these acts of kindness, persisting in his reprehensible and illegal conduct, and raising the standard of revolt.

Consequently, Arabi Pasha is considered a rebel in the eyes of the Imperial Government.

Let no one ignore, on this occasion, that the Ottoman Government is resolved and anxiously desire to maintain the influence and the privileges of His Highness the Khedive. The present Proclamation has therefore been issued in order that all may conform with this supreme decision.

No. 270.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 9, 10.30 P.M.)(No. 322.)
(Telegraphic.)*Constantinople, August 9, 1882, 4.15 P.M.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 321 of this morning, and to the Proclamation, the political situation here is as follows:—

The Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister are anxious to establish a close and loyal concert with England in Egypt, as being the only chance of saving province to the Sultan. Most of the other Ministers are intriguing against their Highnesses, on the ground that they are sacrificing Turkey to England. For the moment they have got the upper hand, and have induced the Sultan to agree to the Proclamation and to the Military Convention. The Sultan, however, insists on Dervish Pasha and the troops starting to-morrow, and Saïd Pasha dares not oppose their departure. Nevertheless, I have told him that they will not be allowed to land until the Convention and the Procla-

mation settled. He proposes to send Server Pasha on ahead with the Proclamation, and entreats your Lordship to let him know, without a moment's delay, if you are satisfied with it. With regard to the Convention, he has no ideas of his own, and would wish your Lordship to suggest the principal terms. He talked of taking Convention regulating French occupation in Syria as a model. He strongly desires that England and Turkey should be denominated in it as friends and allies. The details, he thinks, ought to be subsequently settled between Turkish and English Commissioners on the spot. The Turkish General will be under the Turkish Commissioner, but I doubt Dervish Pasha taking orders from Server Pasha. We may count, I think, on Dervish Pasha doing his best to catch Arabi, as he hates him cordially. I think it is our interest to support the two Saïd Pashas, and to render their programme as palatable as possible to the Sultan. Nothing could be more peremptory than the terms in which I spoke to Saïd Pasha of the conditions under which the troops would be allowed to land, and I pointed out to him that if through their precipitate departure they had to be turned back, the Sultan would hold him responsible for the rebuff. It is very important your Lordship should reply to this with as little delay as possible, and should instruct me as to Convention. I have told Saïd Pasha it was possible I might hear from your Lordship by to-morrow before sunset.

Saïd Pasha further asked me to inform your Lordship that if you approved Proclamation he would have it issued at Constantinople and Turkey [*sic*], and that Server Pasha would start with it in his pocket for Egypt. He hopes your Lordship will not allow the Proclamation to be published in England until it has been communicated to the newspapers here.

No. 271.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 9.)(No. 749. Confidential. Ext. 322.)
My Lord,*Therapia, August 9, 1882.*

WITH reference to my previous despatch of this day's date, and the proposed Proclamation, I have the honour to state that the political situation is at present as follows:—

The Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister are anxious to establish a close and loyal concert with England in Egypt, as being the only chance of saving that province to the Sultan. Most of the other Ministers are intriguing against them on the ground that they are sacrificing Turkey to England. For the moment two Ministers have got the upper hand, and have induced the Sultan to agree to the Proclamation. The Sultan, however, insists on Dervish Pasha and the troops starting to-morrow, and the Foreign Minister does not dare to oppose their departure. Nevertheless, I have told him that they will not be allowed to land until the Convention and Proclamation are settled.

His Excellency proposes to send on Server Pasha beforehand with the Proclamation, and entreats your Lordship to let him know without a moment's delay if you are satisfied with it.

As regards the Convention, his Excellency has no ideas of his own, and would be glad if your Lordship would suggest the principal terms. The Convention regulating the French occupation in Syria appears to him to be a good model, and he is very anxious that England and Turkey should be denominated in it as friends and allies. As regards the details, he thinks they might be settled later between the English and Ottoman Commissioners on the spot. The Ottoman General will be under the Ottoman Commissioner, but I doubt whether Dervish Pasha would take orders from Server Pasha.

We may, I think, count upon Dervish Pasha doing his best to capture Arabi, for he hates him cordially.

I think that it is in our interest to support the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister, and to render their programme as palatable as possible to the Sultan. I spoke to the Foreign Minister in the most peremptory terms of the conditions under which the Ottoman troops would be allowed to land, and I pointed out to his Excellency that if through their precipitate departure they had to be turned back, the Sultan would hold him responsible for the rebuff.

It is very important your Lordship should reply to this telegram with as little delay as possible, and should instruct me as to the Convention.

I have told Saïd it was possible I might hear from your Lordship by to-morrow before evening.

The Foreign Minister further asked me to inform your Lordship that if you agreed to the Proclamation he would have it issued at once in Constantinople and Turkey, and that Server Pasha should take it with him to Egypt.

His Excellency hopes that you will not allow the Proclamation to be published in England until it has been communicated to the newspapers here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 272.

Mr. Kirby Green to Earl Granville.—(Received August 9, 10:30 P.M.)

(Telegraphic.) *Cettinje, August 9, 1882, 2:50 P.M.*
THREE battalions, in all about 1,000 men, have marched from Scutari to Medua, and will probably embark for Alexandria to-morrow.
(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 273.

Acting Consul Moncrieff to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10.)

(No. 11. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Jeddah, July 20, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that yesterday, since sending my despatches Nos. 11 and 16, Political, of the 18th instant, the news of the bombardment of Alexandria by Her Majesty's fleet has been received here. Before leaving Souakin I obtained from the Governor his Excellency's guarantee, that no harm should occur to Europeans there in the event of military action in support of His Highness the Khedive, and I particularly dwelt on the only probable source of danger, viz., that from the soldiers in the town and district, some 300. His Excellency did not give the guarantee without remarking that he would have to obey the orders he received from Cairo, and that he should obey the "person who had the real power." I answered that it was impossible to believe that he could receive orders from any authority to attack non-combatants, but that I felt confident that should the troops injure Europeans, it would be with the connivance of their superiors. He said he did not command the troops. Finally, however, he stated that he had confidence in all the officers, including Commandant, who is also Sub-Governor. He deliberately gave me his guarantee.

As the telegraph had broken down, there was little chance of any news from Lower Egypt reaching Souakin before I could go to Jeddah and return, in the event of anything serious having taken place, and of the state of Jeddah permitting me to do so, while it appeared to me very desirable that I should come here to judge the state of popular feeling.

The news of the bombardment, though strangely reported here and there as a defeat of the English, has had a good effect where the truth is known. I have taken measures for making it known, as also that the Khedive and Dervish Pasha are with Her Majesty's fleet. I am, therefore, more confident than ever about Jeddah, and shall go across to Souakin to-day in the "Potaro," which brought the news, and will probably take it to Souakin, in order to give whatever assistance I can to Europeans in that place.

Arabi Pasha's having freed the convicts, as I hear, is a bad sign; there are many in Souakin, and the situation may get beyond the Governor if, as I now believe possible, some barbarous orders should be sent, or the news of our attack itself should cause an outbreak. My presence will, I hope, remind his Excellency of his duty and restrain Europeans, who have hitherto trusted to me, from any rash acts, while in case of necessity I will take whatever measures are possible for their safety.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYNEDOCHE N. MONCRIEFF.

No. 274.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10.)

(No. 25.)

My Lord,

London, August 9, 1882.

WE have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a letter, dated 7th instant, which M. Charles de Lesseps has addressed to the Representatives of the Powers in Paris, and also copy of a telegram, dated 6th instant, from M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, from Ismailia.

We do not think it necessary to comment upon the course taken by M. Charles de Lesseps in addressing a Circular to the Diplomatic Body beyond observing that the communication was made without our knowledge; but in view of the repeated assertions of M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, recorded in this and other documents, as to the neutrality of the Canal, and the interpretation which he applies to that expression, we think it well to call the attention of your Lordship to the precise text of the Articles of the Company's Concessions which have any bearing on this question.

Concession of the 5th January, 1856:—

"Article 14. Nous déclarons solennellement, pour nous et nos successeurs, sous la réserve de la ratification de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, le Grand Canal Maritime de Suez à Péluse et les ports en dépendant, ouverts à toujours, comme passages neutres, à tout navire de commerce traversant d'une mer à l'autre, sans aucune distinction, exclusion ni préférence de personne ou de nationalités, moyennant le paiement des droits et l'exécution des Règlements établis par la Compagnie Universelle Concessionnaire pour l'usage du dit Canal et dépendances.

"Article 15. En conséquence du principe posé dans l'Article précédent, la Compagnie Universelle Concessionnaire ne pourra, dans aucun cas, accorder à aucun navire, Compagnie ou particulier, aucuns avantages ou faveurs qui ne soient accordés à tous autres navires, Compagnies ou particuliers, dans les mêmes conditions."

Concession of the 22nd February, 1866:—

"Article 9. Le Canal Maritime et toutes ses dépendances restent soumis à la police Égyptienne, qui s'exercera librement comme sur tout autre point du territoire, de façon à assurer le bon ordre, la sécurité publique et l'exécution des lois et règlements du pays.

"Le Gouvernement Égyptien jouira de la servitude de passage à travers le Canal Maritime sur les points qu'il jugera nécessaires, tant pour ses propres communications que pour la libre circulation du commerce et du public, sans que la Compagnie puisse percevoir aucun droit de péage ou autre redevance sous quelque prétexte que ce soit.

"Article 10. Le Gouvernement Égyptien occupera dans le périmètre des terrains réservés comme dépendance du Canal Maritime, toute position ou tout point stratégique qu'il jugera nécessaire à la défense du pays. Cette occupation ne devra pas faire obstacle à la navigation et respectera les servitudes attachées aux francs-bords du Canal.

"Article 11. Le Gouvernement Égyptien sous les mêmes réserves, pourra occuper pour ses services administratifs (poste, douane, caserne, &c.) tout emplacement disponible qu'il jugera convenable, en tenant compte des nécessités de l'exploitation des services de la Compagnie; dans ce cas, le Gouvernement remboursera, quand il y aura lieu, à la Compagnie, les sommes que celle-ci aura dépensées pour créer ou approprier les terrains dont il voudra disposer."

These stipulations are confirmed by the Firman of the Sultan dated 19th March, 1866.

It will be seen from the Articles which we have quoted—

1. That a *neutral passage* is to be maintained for ships of commerce through the Canal, without preference or distinction.

2. That on the land reserved for the working of the Canal the Egyptian Government retains full right of entry and installation for the purposes of the defence of the country or for exercising a right of police ("as upon any other point of the territory"), for securing good order, the public safety, and the enforcement of the laws.

These rights the Khedive is now inviting Her Majesty's Government to exercise on his behalf and in his name.

It may be observed that the phrase "neutral zone," which M. de Lesseps applies to the lands occupied by the Company, does not appear in the Concessions, and is in

evident conflict with the conditions which, as above shown, the Egyptian Government have reserved to themselves.

We have, &c.
(Signed) C. RIVERS WILSON.
J. STOKES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 274.

M. C. de Lesseps to the Representatives of the Powers in Paris.

Paris, le 7 Août, 1882.

PAR une lettre en date du 8 Juillet dernier, M. Ferdinand de Lesseps a eu l'honneur de vous communiquer des instructions qu'il venait d'adresser par le télégraphe à l'Agent Supérieur de notre Compagnie en Égypte relativement à la neutralité du Canal Maritime de Suez.

Il vous exprimait en même temps la pensée que vous jugeriez sans doute à propos de signaler à votre Gouvernement l'utilité pour chaque Puissance maritime ayant intérêt au libre transit du Canal de Suez d'envoyer un bâtiment de guerre en observation à Port Saïd.

Par une dépêche datée d'Ismaïlia le 4 Août, M. Ferdinand de Lesseps a fait connaître à notre Conseil d'Administration que l'Amiral Anglais lui avait écrit sa décision de prendre, malgré ses protestations, les mesures nécessaires pour occuper le Canal, s'appuyant sur une lettre du Khédive qui lui donne tout pouvoir pour agir.

Le Conseil, réuni extraordinairement, a pris une résolution que j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre en copie conformément à l'invitation qui m'en est télégraphiquement transmise d'Ismaïlia par M. Ferdinand de Lesseps.

Dans ce même télégramme M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, en nous signalant les démonstrations guerrières des Commandants Anglais dans le Lac Timsah provoquant les indigènes et pouvant entraîner des actes de guerre dans la zone neutre du Canal, ajoute que la protection navale collective des Puissances sans débarquement serait une solution désirable, susceptible d'empêcher une violation imminente d'une neutralité garantie par le Sultan à la marine universelle.

Veuillez, &c.
Le Vice-Président du Conseil d'Administration,
(Signé) CH. AMÉ DE LESSEPS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 274.

M. Ferdinand de Lesseps to M. C. de Lesseps.

(Télégraphique.)

Ismaïlia, le 6 Août, minuit.

LES Commandants Anglais des navires de guerre mouillés dans le Canal devant Ismaïlia (dans le Lac Timsah) provoquant les indigènes pour avoir un prétexte de débarquement, M. Ferdinand de Lesseps a exprimé la pensée qu'une protection purement navale des Puissances, sans débarquement sur les terres neutres du Canal, serait une solution désirable, susceptible d'empêcher une violation de la neutralité.

Un canot de guerre Anglais a circulé de nuit dans le Canal, entre Suez et le Lac Timsah, sans autorisation et sans paiement des droits de passage.

No. 275.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10.)

(No. 26.)

My Lord,

London, August 9, 1882.

THE telegram from M. de Lesseps, dated Ismaïlia, midnight, on the 6th instant, of which copy was inclosed in our No. 25 of this day, states that an English war-boat had been patrolling in the Canal during the night between Suez and Lake Timsah without paying the dues.

We beg leave to suggest that the circumstance should be brought to the notice of

the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, with a view to inquiry as to the reason for the non-payment of the tolls.

We would submit that it is very desirable that the Commanders of Her Majesty's ships on the Canal should conform as strictly as possible to the regulations, and should work as much as possible in harmony with the officials of the Company.

We have, &c.
(Signed) C. RIVERS WILSON.
J. STOKES.

No. 276.

Saïd Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by Musurus Pasha, August 10.)

(Télégraphique.)

Constantinople, le 10 Août, 1882.

MA dépêche précédente vous a fait savoir la décision du Gouvernement Impérial, sanctionnée par Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, concernant la promulgation de la Proclamation et la conclusion d'une Convention Militaire demandée par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Dans sa réponse du 8, votre Excellence nous informe que Lord Granville a demandé de nouveau à connaître les termes et l'époque de la Proclamation en question, ainsi que les bases de la Convention.

J'ai communiqué aujourd'hui même, d'une manière officieuse, à Lord Dufferin, une copie de la Proclamation, qui sera publiée le jour du départ de nos troupes pour l'Égypte.

Quant à la Convention, je crois devoir, dès à présent, vous énoncer les points qui, à mon avis, devraient servir de base de ce document. En cas qu'ils rencontreraient l'adhésion de Lord Granville, et que sa Seigneurie donnerait des instructions à Lord Dufferin, je me réserve de délibérer là-dessus, sans perte de temps, avec mes collègues, et de les soumettre à la sanction de notre auguste Souverain.

Voici ces points :—

"1. Le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman [? s'engage] sur la demande des Grandes Puissances [? contenues] dans leurs notes identiques du 15 Juillet, 1882, à envoyer des troupes en Égypte pour un délai de trois mois, en se réservant de prolonger la durée de leur séjour suivant les termes de la note précitée.

"2. Les opérations militaires nécessaires en Égypte seront dévolues aux troupes Impériales Ottomanes.

"3. Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne permettra pas à ses troupes qui se trouvent à Alexandrie de dépasser la zone qu'elles occupent actuellement dans cette ville et ses environs.

"4. La durée du séjour des troupes Anglaises à Alexandrie sera, au plus, de trois mois à dater du jour de la signature de la présente Convention.

"5. Tous les individus qui seront mis en état d'arrestation par suite des événements d'Égypte seront livrés aux autorités de Son Altesse le Khédive.

"6. Les mesures se rattachant à la Convention Militaire seront arrêtées entre le Commissaire Impérial Ottoman et le Commandant-en-chef des forces de Sa Majesté Britannique."

Dans le cas où on reconnaîtrait sur les lieux la nécessité de donner plus de développement aux points qui précèdent, la chose pourrait être concertée entre le Commissaire Impérial Ottoman et le Commandant-en-chef des forces Anglaises, et faire l'objet d'une Annexe à la Convention.

Dans cette circonstance nous avons l'intention, comme je vous ai déjà fait savoir par le télégraphe, de donner aujourd'hui l'ordre du départ de nos troupes pour l'Égypte, et, si la chose ne peut se faire pour ce jour, de les faire partir au plus tard demain Vendredi.

Votre Excellence est autorisée à donner lecture de cette dépêche à sa Seigneurie le Chef du Foreign Office.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10, 8 A.M.)

(No. 323.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 9, 1882.

MAJOR TROTTER requests me to telegraph the following:—

"Dispatch to Suda Bay of first brigade, between 5,000 and 6,000 strong, is now nearly completed.

"A second brigade of similar strength is being organized, and will probably be dispatched on return of transports. The preparations for the subsequent dispatch of a larger force only exist on paper. Contracts for meat, &c., at Alexandria are being negotiated for a force of 6,000 men only."

No. 278.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 507.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 10, 1882, 2 20 P.M.

WILL send answer about Proclamation as soon as possible.

In meanwhile, you may commence negotiation of Military Convention on lines of draft telegraphed yesterday, with full discretion to introduce any civil phrases into it.

No. 279.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 492. Ext. 507.)
My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 10, 1882.

I HAVE received your Excellency's telegram of yesterday forwarding the text of the proposed Proclamation of the Sultan in support of the Khedive, and declaring Arabi Pasha a rebel, and I have to state that you will receive the reply of Her Majesty's Government on this subject as soon as possible.

In the meanwhile, your Excellency is authorized to commence negotiations with the Porte for a Military Convention on the lines of the draft which was yesterday forwarded to you by telegraph, using your discretion as to the introduction of any phrases which would be agreeable to the Sultan.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 280.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 508.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 10, 1882, 3 P.M.

YOURS No. 321 of yesterday.

Express to the Sultan, in the manner which may be most agreeable to His Majesty, the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the friendly manner in which he has acted upon the advice of Her Majesty's Government and of the Powers in regard to the issue of Proclamation.

There is one phrase as to "foreign interference" which is sure to lead to misconception, and should be omitted, or at least altered to "military interference."

It would also be desirable, to avoid ambiguity, that the words "safe keeping of the rights of the country with regard to the foreigner" should be altered by inserting the words "and engagements" after "rights."

As a proof of confidence in the Sultan, express a desire for his naval co-operation. We should be glad to see his flag at Port Saïd or on the Canal.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 491. Ext. 508.)
My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 10, 1882.

HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration the text of the Proclamation which, as you inform me in your telegram No. 321 of yesterday, the Porte proposes should be issued in the name of the Sultan.

Her Majesty's Government desire that your Excellency will express to the Sultan in the manner which you may consider will be most agreeable to His Majesty their thanks for the friendly manner in which he has acted upon the advice of Her Majesty's Government and of the other Powers in regard to the issue of the Proclamation.

The phrase as to "foreign interference" is sure to lead to misconception, and should be omitted, or at least altered to "military interference." And in order to avoid ambiguity it would be desirable that the words "safe keeping of the rights of the country with regard to the foreigner" should be altered by the insertion of the words "and engagements" after "rights."

As a proof of the confidence felt by Her Majesty's Government in the Sultan, you should express their desire to receive his naval co-operation. They would be glad to see His Majesty's flag at Port Saïd or on the Canal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 282.

Sir E. Thornton to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10, 3 P.M.)

(No. 41.)
(Telegraphic.)

St. Petersburg, August 10, 1882, 12:30 P.M.

FROM several conversations with M. de Giers I gather that the Russian Government would willingly agree to the adjournment of the Conference, though not prepared to take the initiative. His Excellency yesterday said he did not see much advantage in its continuing its sittings after arrangement had been made for the safety of the Suez Canal, as he thought it should take note of the declaration of England with regard to Egypt, and might then adjourn till the restoration of order should render necessary the consideration by the Powers of the future of that country.

No. 283.

Sir E. Thornton to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 10.)

(No. 256. Ext. 41.)
My Lord,

St. Petersburg, August 10, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that from several conversations I have recently had with M. de Giers, I gather that the Imperial Government would be very willing to agree to the adjournment of the Conference, though they might not be prepared to take the initiative. His Excellency yesterday said that he did not see much advantage in its continuing its meetings after an arrangement should have been arrived at for the safety of the Suez Canal. He thought that the Conference should take note ("prendre acte") of the declarations made by Her Majesty's Government with regard to Egypt, and that it might then adjourn till the restoration of order in that country should render necessary the consideration by the Powers of its future political status.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. THORNTON.

No. 284.

*Earl Granville to Sir E. Thornton.**(No. 285.)
(Telegraphic.)*Foreign Office, August 10, 1882, 3.25 P.M.*

COMMUNICATE unofficially to Government to which you are accredited substance of Mr. Cartwright's telegram No. 389 of 8th instant, repeated to you, as to return of Europeans to Alexandria at present being undesirable.

No. 285.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10, 3.30 P.M.)(No. 392.)
(Telegraphic.)*Alexandria, August 10, 1882, noon.*

ARRIVED here this morning. Colvin just left.

No. 286.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.†(No. 510.)
(Telegraphic.)*Foreign Office, August 10, 1882, 4 P.M.*

KEEP Admiral Seymour informed by telegraph of all movements of Turkish troops and ships of war.

No. 287.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10, 5.30 P.M.)(No. 181.)
(Telegraphic.)*Paris, August 10, 1882, 3.30 P.M.*

I HAVE seen M. Duclerc. He was not prepared to enter into details, but begged me, in general terms, to assure you of his desire to maintain a good understanding on the Egyptian question.

I pressed the affair of M. de Lesseps on his attention.

No. 288.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 10.)(No. 881. Ext. 181.)
My Lord,*Paris, August 10, 1882.*

I HAD this morning my first interview with M. Duclerc since his accession to office as President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs.

He did not seem to be prepared to discuss the details of the Egyptian question, but in general terms he begged me to assure your Lordship that he earnestly desired to maintain a good understanding respecting it with Her Majesty's Government.

I took the opportunity of pressing upon M. Duclerc's attention the verbal note which I presented to his predecessor on the 5th instant, and the request contained in it that the French Government would make representations to M. de Lesseps on the subject of his present proceedings in Egypt with regard to the Suez Canal.

I have had the honour to forward the substance of this despatch to your Lordship by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

* Also to Mr. Ford (No. 21), Viscount Lyons (No. 561), Sir A. Paget (No. 308), Sir H. Eliot (No. 284), and Sir J. Walsham (No. 286).

† Also to Consul Sandwith.

‡ See Nos. 144, 145, and 146.

No. 289.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.(No. 516.)
(Telegraphic.)*Foreign Office, August 10, 1882, 6 P.M.*

TURKISH Ambassador has communicated to me the draft of an unacceptable Military Convention. I have told him that, as you have full authority and instructions, it would only lead to confusion to carry on separate negotiation here.

No. 290.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.(No. 494. Ext. 516.)
My Lord,*Foreign Office, August 10, 1882.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, a draft of a Military Convention which has been communicated to me by the Turkish Ambassador at this Court,* the terms of which are considered unacceptable by Her Majesty's Government.

I have informed Musurus Pasha that as your Excellency has full authority and instructions on the subject, I thought it would only lead to confusion were separate negotiations to be carried on here.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 291.

Consul-General Blunt to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10, 6 P.M.)(No. 7.)
(Telegraphic.)*Salonica, August 10, 1882, 2 P.M.*

THE ships of war now here consist of one iron-clad and two dispatch-boats.
(Sent to Therapia.)

No. 292.

Acting Consul Eyres to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10, 6 P.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Scutari, August 10, 1882, 2.10 P.M.

FOLLOWING sent to Lord Dufferin:—

"Yesterday a Turkish transport left port of Scutari for Constantinople with three battalions aboard, amounting to 1,000 altogether."

No. 293.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.(No. 412.)
(Telegraphic.)*Foreign Office, August 10, 1882, 6.30 P.M.*

MUSURUS PASHA has communicated a draft of an unacceptable Military Convention, stipulating that the British troops should not pass beyond the zone they occupy in Alexandria and its neighbourhood; that they should not remain there more than three months; that all persons arrested should be handed to the Khedive's authorities; that the details should be settled between the Ottoman Commissioner and the British Commander-in-chief: further arrangements to be concerted on the spot.

Under these circumstances, the Porte will order its troops to start to-day or, at latest, to-morrow.

I have told Musurus Pasha that, as Lord Dufferin has full authority and instructions, it would only lead to confusion to carry on separate negotiation here.

* See No. 276.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 272. Ext. 412.)

Sir, Foreign Office, August 10, 1882.
I INCLOSE a copy of a draft Military Convention which has been communicated to me by the Turkish Ambassador at this Court,* the terms of which are considered unacceptable by Her Majesty's Government.

I have informed Musurus Pasha that as Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople has full authority and instructions on the subject, I thought it would only lead to confusion were separate negotiations carried on here.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 295.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 10.)

THE Secretary of the Admiralty presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram, dated 9th instant, from Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett, at Suez, respecting the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Seagull" from visiting Red Sea ports.

Admiralty, August 10, 1882.

Inclosure in No. 295.

Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.)

Suez, August 9, 1882, 10.12 P.M.

"SEAGULL" arrived yesterday (8th).
Commander [Byles] reports [that there is] no necessity [for a] man-of-war [at] Jeddah or Suakim.
Canal Reports.—Nil.

No. 296.

Lord Tenterden to the Secretary to the Admiralty.†

(Confidential.)

Sir, Foreign Office, August 10, 1882.
I AM directed by Earl Granville to request that you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the accompanying copy of a despatch from the British Suez Canal Directors,‡ giving their opinion on the arrangements to be made for regulating the traffic through the Canal during the landing of British troops, and stating their views as to the mode and time of approaching the Suez Canal Company on the subject.

A copy of the inclosed despatch will be forwarded this evening to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris; and Lord Granville would be glad to be informed whether the Board of Admiralty would wish his Excellency to be directed to take any steps in the matter.

I am to add that instructions with regard to the attitude of M. F. de Lesseps, which is referred to in the last paragraph of the despatch inclosed, were sent some days since to Lord Lyons.

I am, &c.
(Signed) TENTERDEN.

* See No. 276.

† Also to the War Office.

‡ No. 190.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10, 10.30 P.M.)

(No. 324.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 10, 1882, 12.30 P.M.

I HAVE obtained possession of a long Report, dated the 18th March, from Arabi to the Sultan, and of some telegrams from the same individual to the Prime Minister. I have also before me the answer of the Porte, as approved by the Sultan, to Arabi's Memorandum.

These two latter documents are very interesting. Arabi, in his Report, offers to increase the tribute of Egypt by 150,000*l.* He also proposes to depose the Khedive, and he states that the French Consul told him that his Government was fully alive to the designs of England against Egypt, and that France, though obliged for the moment to act in concert with England, will in the end support Arabi in thwarting their intentions. Arabi suggests the substitution of Halim Pasha for Tewfik Pasha, the gradual exclusion of all foreign employés, and the placing of Egypt more directly under the Government of the Sultan. The Prime Minister, in his reply, which is dated the 19th April, approves of Arabi's idea of increasing the tribute of Egypt, and of restriction of executive power of the Khedive. With regard to the exclusion of foreigners, it will be necessary to proceed with caution. It will be well, therefore, for Arabi to submit to the orders of the Khedive whenever he can do so without prejudicing interests of the State. The Imperial Government will endeavour to assist Arabi in the gradual and prudent execution of his proposals. With regard to the dethronement of the Khedive, an inquiry must first be held into his conduct, and due regard will have to be paid to the times and circumstances.

A strain of insincerity runs through the correspondence on either side, and each seems to have been fencing with the other.

Arabi's proposal to increase the Egyptian tribute is a curious revelation.

No. 298.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 10.)

(No. 751. Confidential. Ext. 324.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 10, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship translations of letters and telegrams which I have obtained that have passed between the Sublime Porte and Arabi Pasha with reference to the affairs of Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 298.

Report from Arabi Pasha to His Majesty the Sultan, dated 10 Djemaz-el-Evvel, 1299 (March 18, 1882).

(Traduction.)

LE but de l'humble missive que je me permets de mettre aux pieds de Votre Majesté Impériale est le suivant :—

Par suite de mon obéissance et de mon attachement inaltérable au Saint Khalifat, je suis toujours prêt à sacrifier ma vie en exécution des ordres de Votre Majesté Impériale, et les préceptes sacrés de notre sainte religion sont un garant que je ne saurais jamais entreprendre quoique ce soit à l'encontre de la volonté de Votre Majesté Impériale.

C'est donc à cause de ce sentiment religieux que j'ai voulu modifier l'état regrettable où je voyais mon pays, que j'ai voulu attacher, à l'avenir, l'Égypte, comme il est juste, au Trône de Votre Majesté, et faire en sorte que toutes les questions qui la concernent furent résolues par l'intermédiaire de la Sublime Porte, et que je cherche les moyens d'obliger les étrangers à ce que les Conventions qui ont été stipulées directement entre eux et l'Égypte ne soient pas exécutées sans le consentement de la Sublime Porte.

Sous le prétexte de réparer le désordre de l'état des affaires qui a été laissé par
[1410] 2 L

l'ex-Khédive Ismaïl Pacha, son fils Tewfik Pacha, en vue de sauvegarder sa place, confirme chaque décision des membres du Conseil du Contrôle, qui sont ennemis du pays et de la religion, afin de faire tomber l'Égypte sous le protectorat Britannique, et en prenant le Consul Britannique comme son conseiller de confiance, il n'a pour but dans chacune de ces actions que celui de plaire aux Anglais, au point qu'il a entrepris de réduire le chiffre de l'armée Impériale de l'Égypte, d'éloigner, sans rime ni raison, les employés Musulmans, dont la fidélité et intégrité est notoire, et de nommer à leurs places des Anglais, pour la plupart, et quelques Français, afin de ne pas leur donner l'éveil. Le Consul de France m'a dit confidentiellement que les Français n'ignorent point les vues des Anglais, mais que tout en étant obligé de marcher pour le moment d'accord avec l'Angleterre, son Gouvernement ne manquera pas à la fin de m'aider dans le but que je me propose.

À l'heure qu'il est, tout le monde a vu et compris les agissements du Khédive, et tous les hommes de piété en ont été douloureusement affectés. C'est pourquoi, ainsi qu'il a été précédemment rapporté à Votre Majesté, j'ai l'honneur de l'informer qu'en conformité d'un Fetva des Ulémas d'Ezher, il a été procédé à la fonction d'un Conseil composé des Ulémas et des Notables de la nation, dans l'espoir de mettre un terme aux agissements du Khédive et un obstacle à l'exécution de ses ordres, toutes les fois qu'ils ne sont pas revêtus de la sanction du Conseil en question. En outre, j'ai l'honneur d'informer Votre Majesté que nous sommes d'accord—tant les membres du Conseil que votre humble esclave—sur ce que, en vue de sauver l'Égypte des mains des étrangers dans le plus court espace de temps possible, il faudra par une pression morale et matérielle, amener le Khédive à abdiquer, renvoyer graduellement les employés étrangers et les remplacer par ceux des employés Musulmans qui avaient été injustement congédiés, et, enfin, augmenter le tribut annuel de 150,000 livres, moyennant la somme qui sera économisée sur les émoluments abusifs versés aux étrangers. Le Khédive sent bien qu'il ne saurait s'opposer à ces exigences nationales, et qu'un jour la nation ne manquera pas de le chasser, à cause de ses mauvais agissements. C'est pourquoi il provoque des troubles en Égypte et excite les étrangers contre moi, en vue de sauvegarder la tranquillité publique, et il ne berce de l'espoir que par ce moyen il m'enverra en exil, il abolira le Conseil, et il pourra agir à sa guise. Cependant, si, moi, je m'éloigne, la décision prise ne subsistera pas moins, attendu que, bien que ma personne soit susceptible d'être écartée, l'union et la décision unanime des chefs zélés de la nation, qui m'ont mis à la place que j'occupe, restera debout jusqu'à l'éternité des siècles.

Je suis persuadé que les sentiments que j'expose à Votre Majesté seront pleinement approuvés par elle, et nous avons pleine confiance que nous serons honoré de l'assistance apparente et secrète de notre Seigneur et Maître. Nous supplions Votre Majesté de réformer les clauses du Firman qu'elle a conféré à l'Égypte, et de nous faire grâce d'un nouveau Firman à cet effet.

En cas que ce nouveau Firman n'est pas conféré au nom de Khédive actuel, mais à celui de Halim Pacha, fils de Mohammed Ali, ou bien à celui de toute autre personne parmi les Notables d'ici qui serait honorée de l'approbation de Votre Majesté Impériale, je puis l'assurer que cela sera beaucoup plus agréable à la nation, et contribuera à garantir le succès de nos efforts. Autrement, plutôt que d'être pressurés par la protection Britannique ou étrangère, la nation cherchera son salut en s'attachant à l'union établie. J'en soumetts la bonne nouvelle à Votre Majesté. En attendant, je la supplie de prendre en sérieuse considération ce que j'ai eu l'honneur d'exposer ci-dessus, et afin de ne pas rester dans l'anxiété de l'attente d'une réponse approbative, je me suis empressé de le mettre aux pieds de Votre Majesté, par l'intermédiaire d'Ahmet Essad Effendi, qui avait été chargé par Votre Majesté de se rendre auprès de moi. Ceci étant connu à Votre Majesté, qu'il lui plaise d'ordonner ce qu'il croit à propos.

Inclosure 2 in No. 298.

The Prime Minister to Arabi Pasha.

(Traduction.)
(Télégraphique.)

22 Djemaz-ul-Akhir, 1299 (19 Avril, 1882).

LE Rapport de votre Excellence en date du 10 Djemazi-ul-Evvel, 1299, correspondant à 18 Mars, 1882, ayant été soumis à Sa Majesté, fut ensuite par l'ordre Impérial examiné en Conseil des Ministres, qui sont arrivés à la décision suivante, confirmée et approuvée par Sa Majesté, à savoir : que la Sublime Porte approuve votre idée par rapport aux mesures à adopter comme conséquence de l'union et de l'accord pour

l'administration de l'Égypte, l'augmentation du tribut et la restriction du pouvoir exécutif du Khédive. Quant à la diminution des employés étrangers dans l'Administration, il est évident qu'il n'y a pas un meilleur moyen d'assurer le salut et l'avenir de l'Égypte : seulement, il est nécessaire de s'y prendre avec beaucoup de circonspection et mesure, attendu que vu la situation délicate où nous sommes, l'emploi de la sévérité ne saurait que rendre notre tâche difficile. Par conséquent, prenant tout cela en considération il est nécessaire et important que dans les affaires qui ne sont pas préjudiciables à l'État vous vous soumettiez aux ordres du Khédive. En même temps le Gouvernement Impérial, en sa qualité de Souverain, n'épargnera point son assistance à l'exécution graduelle de ce que vous rapportez en conformité des désirs de la nation, et il est indubitable qu'il ne permettra pas que ses droits incontestables sur l'Égypte soient foulés aux pieds.

Quant à la conduite de Khédive, dont vous parlez, bien qu'elle ne soit pas encore prouvée aux yeux de la Porte, elle ne manquera pas de faire des investigations et d'envoyer, le cas échéant, des Délégués civils et militaires en Égypte. Avant la destitution du Khédive le Gouvernement Impérial ne saurait modifier les clauses du Firman en vigueur. Quant à sa destitution, elle ne saurait dépendre que de la preuve de ce que lui est attribué, et lorsque le temps propice arrivera le Gouvernement Impérial ne manquera pas de s'en occuper.

En conclusion, je m'en rapporte à la sagacité de votre Excellence, en l'engageant d'agir d'après la nécessité des temps et des circonstances, de ne pas aller au delà des instructions présentes, et en cas de nécessité, de rapporter au Gouvernement Impérial en en demandant de nouvelles instructions.

Tel est le but de la présente missive.

Inclosure 3 in No. 298.

Arabi Pasha to the Prime Minister.

(Traduction.)

12 Chaban, 1298 (May 30, 1882).

J'AI été excessivement satisfait d'avoir eu l'honneur d'un télégramme de votre Altesse le jour précédent, attendu que votre Altesse me fait savoir que ma fidélité ayant été constatée aux yeux de Sa Majesté Impériale, Dervish Pacha a été réprimandé de sa mauvaise conduite à mon égard. Le susmentionné étant un fondé de pouvoir de notre auguste Maître, il est certainement de mon devoir de me soumettre à tous ses ordres. Malheureusement Dervish Pacha a entrepris de me mépriser et de m'insulter à cause probablement des caresses et des présents du Khédive. En attendant, votre humble esclave, quels que soient les traitements dont il peut être l'objet, ses efforts dévoués et son zèle ne feront qu'augmenter. J'ai été questionné aussi dans le susdit télégramme par votre Altesse à propos de l'obstruction du Canal de Suez. Cependant, je crois qu'il est nécessaire de ne pas y toucher, afin d'attirer les Français de mon côté. Voilà pourquoi je ne crois pas à propos de toucher pour le moment au Canal. Le fait que les bâtiments Anglais continuent chaque nuit d'examiner les fortifications par le moyen de la lumière électrique, malgré la cessation des travaux que j'ai ordonnée, me donne l'idée qu'ils ont des mauvaises intentions. Par conséquent, s'il arrive quelque calamité à Alexandrie, la responsabilité en retombera sur le Khédive qui a ordonné la suspension des fortifications, de même qu'il répondra de tout ce qui pourra arriver en Égypte. C'est lui qui, ne voulant pas entendre des conseils, a été la cause unique de la crise actuelle. Dervish Pacha me dit qu'il a la mission de me réconcilier avec le Khédive, mais moi je n'ai aucune inimitié personnelle contre ce dernier et mon désir n'est autre que celui de servir fidèlement mon pays, ma religion et mon Gouvernement, tandis que lui ne marche pas dans cette voie. En effet, s'il était ainsi il aurait demandé en toutes choses importantes les ordres de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, et il aurait sauvé son pays des menaces injustes de l'Angleterre ; mais comme il ne possède pas ces qualités il entretient des sentiments d'inimitié à mon égard. Cependant, le fait de son manque de bienveillance à mon égard ne saurait m'affecter tout autant que je suis le serviteur de la nation et l'objet de la bienveillance de mon auguste Maître. En concluant, je supplie votre Altesse au nom de la patrie de pourvoir en toute hâte aux moyens qui pourraient porter un aide à l'état actuel de l'Égypte.

Inclosure 4 in No. 298.

Arabi Pasha to the Prime Minister.(Traduction.)
(Télégraphique.)

Le 14 Mai, 1882.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir les ordres de votre Altesse, en date du 19 Avril, 1882, par lesquels elle s'est plu de me faire savoir que le Gouvernement Impérial approuve ce que j'ai eu l'honneur de lui exposer, et qu'il nous concédera son assistance dans l'exécution des mesures de précaution et de réforme qui seront prises d'un commun accord, en vue d'assurer l'avenir de l'Égypte. Cette nouvelle a causé une grande satisfaction à tous les officiers militaires et civiles, à la suite de quoi des prières ont été lues dans la Mosquée d'Ezher pour la prolongation de la vie et le raffermissement de la gloire de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan.

La crise actuelle devient de jour en jour plus intense, et l'ennemi manifeste ses arrières-pensées. L'adhésion du Khédive encourage les Anglais de plus en plus, et il ne fait aucun cas des conseils de la nation. Conséquemment, l'accord avec lui qui nous avait été ordonné étant impossible, il a été unanimement décidé que rien ne serait fait que par les décisions du Conseil National. Si le Gouvernement Impérial voulait envoyer ici des Délégués impartiaux il serait persuadé du projet qui existe de pressurer l'Égypte par des intrigues occultes.

À mon humble avis le maintien du Khédive actuel étant devenu impossible, je donne l'assurance que les habitants se soumettraient de grand cœur à tout autre Khédive que le Gouvernement Impérial voudrait nommer à sa place.

En conclusion, j'ai l'honneur de faire part à votre Altesse qu'en vue de détruire les intrigues actuelles il est temps d'augmenter l'effectif de l'armée, et de faire sérieusement des préparatifs.

No. 299.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10, 11 P.M.)(No. 78. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.)

Berlin, August 10, 1882, 7.5 P.M.

FROM something Count Hatzfeldt said to me this afternoon, I am under the impression that, out of courtesy towards France, he considers it might be advisable not to bring the labours of the Conference too abruptly to a conclusion. In consequence of recent events, France could hardly be said to have been officially represented at the Conference, and to end the Conference suddenly, before the new Government had had time to look into matters and offer an opinion, might have the appearance of a want of consideration.

Count Hatzfeldt did not directly allude to a proposal for ending the Conference, and I need not say I purposely abstained from mentioning a word on the subject; but what his Excellency did say was that there seemed to be a general desire to break off all further discussion respecting the Egyptian crisis at its present stage, and that, on being consulted, he had used the language I have reported above.

I did not gather that his Excellency would otherwise be opposed to the immediate termination of the discussion.

No. 300.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 10.)(No. 317 Confidential. Ext. 78.)
My Lord,

Berlin, August 10, 1882.

I AM under the impression that Count Hatzfeldt considers it might be advisable, out of courtesy towards France, if the Conference were not brought too abruptly to an end. This impression is founded on a few words which fell from his Excellency in the course of a conversation I had with him this afternoon on the subject of the Italian proposal for the protection of the Suez Canal.

Count Hatzfeldt did not in so many words allude to the idea of closing the Conference, and I need scarcely assure your Lordship that I purposely abstained from doing so; but his Excellency said that there seemed to be an inclination on the part of the

Powers to end as quickly as possible any further discussion on the Egyptian question so long as it remained in its present stage, and that on being consulted as to the expediency of such a step, he had expressed himself in favour of doing whatever had to be done in such a manner that France might not have the slightest reason for supposing she had been treated without due consideration.

Recent events in France had rendered it difficult for her Delegate at the Conference to take officially any prominent part in the discussions; and were the Conference to terminate its labours, even as a temporary measure, with abruptness, it might have the appearance of discourtesy not to give the new French Government time to look into matters, and so have an opportunity of offering an opinion.

Nothing that Count Hatzfeldt said led me to suppose that on any other ground he would be opposed to the closing of the Conference as soon as the discussion on the Italian proposal was finished.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 301.

Consul Sandwith to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10, 11 P.M.)(Telegraphic.) *Canea, Crete, August 10, 1882, 10.18 P.M.*
FIVE transports arrived this morning with soldiers and horses.

No. 302.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 10, 11 P.M.)

(No. 97.)

(Telegraphic.)

Naples, August 10, 1882, 7.45 P.M.

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs was ill and could not see me to-day, but I communicated to his Private Secretary substance of your Lordship's telegram No. 505 to Lord Dufferin respecting Italian proposal for Canal, and acquainted him with views of Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting adjournment of the Conference as reported in Sir H. Elliot's No. 86.

No. 303.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 10.)(No. 333. Ext. 97.)
My Lord,

Hotel Bristol, Naples, August 10, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I arrived here last night, and to-day called upon M. Mancini at Capodimonte. His Excellency was, however, ill in bed, and could not receive me, but I communicated to his Private Secretary the substance of your Lordship's telegram No. 505 of the 9th instant to Lord Dufferin respecting the Italian proposal for the protection of the Suez Canal, and I also acquainted him with Count Kálnoky's views as to its being desirable that the Conference should now adjourn, as reported in Sir Henry Elliot's telegram No. 86 of the 8th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 304.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11.)(No. 325. Most Confidential.)
My Lord,

Rome, August 2, 1882.

I YESTERDAY paid a visit to M. Depretis, the President of the Council, who returned to Rome a few days ago for a Council of Ministers, and will remain, he told me, a few days more before returning to the Lake of Como to rejoin his family, in order to see

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the turn which things may take in the Conference with regard to the question of Turkish intervention in Egypt.

On my asking his Excellency in a familiar way what he had thought of the idea of joining in an intervention with England, he replied that he was not opposed to it in principle under certain circumstances, but that the instability of things in France was a very serious preoccupation to him, and that in the uncertainty as to what the future might bring forth in that country, and what might be the consequences of it upon the position of Italy, it appeared to him more than ever necessary for the future security of Italy that, before consenting to take part in an intervention, she should have the formal sanction of Europe for doing so.

I observed that I thought there was little prospect of obtaining this, but that I was enabled to say that Her Majesty's Government were assured of the moral support of Austria and Germany.

His Excellency replied that assurances of moral support did not, in his eyes, amount to much; he would prefer to have a mandate from the Conference.

As matters now stood, however, his Excellency proceeded to say the question before the Conference was the Turkish intervention. The Turks had accepted, without modification or reserve, the identic note of the 15th July, and there were indications that they were already preparing to give it practical effect. Until it were proved that they were evading their obligations, it would be premature to entertain any other form of intervention.

I replied that it could hardly be said that they had accepted without reserve, when they required that our troops should be withdrawn as a condition of sending their own, and, moreover, stipulated that the future organization of the Egyptian army should be settled between the Porte and the Khedive to the exclusion of Europe, as was shown by a communication made to Her Majesty's Government by the Turkish Ambassador in London. I added that unfortunately the conduct of the Sultan had been characterized by so much duplicity, vacillation, and equivocation, as instanced in his decorating Arabi, his continued relations with him, his reluctance to issue the Proclamation suggested by Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Conference, and supported by all his colleagues, that it was impossible to place reliance on His Majesty's intentions.

M. Depretis maintained that the two questions to which I had referred—the withdrawal of our troops and the organization of the Egyptian army without the participation of Europe—had not been put forward as conditions, but merely as the expression of a desire. It was necessary, of course, his Excellency said, that the Turks should go to Egypt with a clearly defined programme. He was strongly convinced, however, that they have so much interest in acting loyally that they will give the required proofs of their good faith. In this case he should consider that the solution of the Egyptian question had entered upon a regular and pacific phase, at all events upon one which would not lead to a European complication, and the Italian Government, who was more interested, and perhaps more desirous than any other Government in the maintenance of peace, would be relieved of the necessity of having to take a decision as to their own intervention.

I then reverted to his Excellency's observations about France, and inquired if he had any grounds for misgivings as to the intentions of that Power towards Italy.

His Excellency's reply was to the effect that there were still certain questions between the two Governments, of more or less importance, which remained unsettled; that he saw no grounds for immediate apprehension, but that it was the uncertainty of what was going to happen next in that country which gave cause for uneasiness and the constant need for watchfulness, "Cela nous paralyse," he said. If Gambetta came back it would be a very untoward event. He had proofs, such as a Minister of the Interior could only have, that the French and Italian Radicals were making common cause, and that their object was the subversion of the Monarchy in Italy. Fortunately, his Excellency added, they were not well supplied with money.

I cannot help feeling that M. Depretis perhaps purposely exaggerated his apprehensions as to the possible consequences to Italy of the uncertainty of the state of things in France, in order that the Italian Government may have a more plausible excuse for confirming eventually their refusal to join England in intervention, for that that will be the result I am not able to entertain any doubt, notwithstanding the assertion of M. Mancini the other day, that his first answer was not to be considered final.

In this circumstance the Italian Government will be true to the habitual principles of Italian policy, viz., of endeavouring to make a little political capital all round.

With Her Majesty's Government they will wish to appear as having been ready and anxious for an active alliance with England. With the Powers they will claim the

merit of having been faithful to the European concert. From Turkey they will expect a measure of gratitude for not siding against her; and in this country they will hope to gain popularity by showing, which will be very gratifying to the national vanity, that the alliance of Italy has been sought by England, but that the temptation has been resisted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 305.

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(No. 326.)
My Lord, *Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11.)*

Rome, August 6, 1882.

I CALLED upon M. Mancini this afternoon, and having met the Russian Chargé d'Affaires coming out, I asked his Excellency whether, as he had just received this visit, he could give me any information as to the policy of the Russian Government with regard to the Egyptian question, whether it was true, as reported, that they were encouraging the Turks not to accept our conditions as to intervention, and were helping them to obtain a loan.

M. Mancini informed me that M. Schevitch professed not to have any information upon the points referred to, but that he (M. Mancini) had said to him that the Turks drawing on Egypt for their expenses before the final settlement of the affairs of that country appeared to him inadmissible.

His Excellency then went on to inform me that the object of M. Schevitch's visit was to ask him his views as to the English occupation of Suez, the Emperor having re-entered the Conference apparently under the impression that it was to decide upon the measures to be taken for the protection of the Canal.

M. Mancini stated that he had replied to M. Schevitch that he knew nothing officially respecting this occupation, the number of troops, &c., and therefore he was not in a position to give an opinion upon it.

But his Excellency then asked me if I could explain it, and also why the Italian proposal about the Canal had not been accepted by Her Majesty's Government.

I answered that I was without official information on either point, but that I presumed the occupation of Suez was to ensure the safety of our Indian troops, and that the hesitation in accepting the Italian Canal proposal was probably because it would bind the Powers, who agreed to it, not to employ any but naval forces without previous agreement, for which, perhaps, there might not be time.

I supposed, therefore, that it did not appear to Her Majesty's Government to be adapted to the circumstances to be dealt with.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 306.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11.)

(No. 313.)

Berlin, August 9, 1882.

My Lord,
I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship translation of an article from the semi-official "Nord-Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" of this morning relative to the supposed project for placing the Suez Canal under the joint protection of the Powers.

In my telegram No. 77 of to-day I forwarded a summary of the article in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

Extract from the "Nord-Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" of August 9, 1882.

(Translation.)

THE "Morning Post" of the 4th of this month writes:—

We are aware that some of the Great Powers, or rather all the Great Powers, with the exception of England, are inclined to adopt certain decisions with regard to the Suez Canal, which would place that water-way under the control of a Mixed Commission, as is the case with the Danube. Several foreign newspapers have already contained communications, whose official source can hardly be denied, and in these it is explained that the "Mixed Commission of the Danube should be taken as a model for the constitution of a 'Mixed Suez Commission.'"

We have no information as to the proceedings of the Conference, but thus much we do know, that it would be incorrect to assert that all the Great Powers, with the exception of England, are united in considering that the Suez Canal should be placed under the control of a Mixed Commission, in the same way as the Danube. England's interests in the Canal are certainly the greatest, as her navigation through the Canal comprises from 75 to 80 per cent. of the whole, and we do not believe that the other Powers intend to suggest to England that her important interests should be subjected to the decisions of a non-English majority. We can indeed hardly believe that any professional politician really attributes such plans to the other Powers. The "Morning Post" probably only invents such an idea to impress its readers as far as possible with alarm as to the plans of the Continental Powers, and to make any proposals which other Powers may suggest to secure their share in the navigation of the Suez Canal from disturbance and injury appear unlikely to succeed.

If other journals may be held to be well-informed, Italy would appear to have proposed a plan which has nothing to do either with a Danube Commission or with neutralization, and which, indeed, does not pretend to afford a definitive protection, but only one of provisional police. A definitive protection would require an alteration of Treaties, and such alteration could only take place by new Treaties, to which all the Signatories of the existing Treaties would have to agree, and could not be carried out by decisions of the Conference. If the Conference is now occupied with the protection of the Canal against arbitrary disturbance of navigation, the acceptance of any such plan would follow, because such a disturbance is to be feared at the hands of the present holder of power in Egypt, of Arabi, or of other anti-Christian elements who may appear in his place. Should any measures of police be accepted, the Powers who put them into execution would possess no authority to take any steps as regards the management and use of the Canal beyond its defence from attacks; and thus its comparison with the Danube Commission at once disappears. That, as has already been said, England, with her large participation in the navigation, cannot be inclined to make the freedom and regulations of the Canal permanently dependent on the decisions of a non-English majority, is naturally clear.

But hitherto, no Power appears to have hinted at such an end in view to the Conference, and, indeed, the Conference has made its chief object the maintenance, and, where it has been disturbed, the re-establishment of the international *status quo*. Hitherto, no Power has expressed the desire to see this "*status quo ante Arabi*" definitively altered, and even the proposal which has lately been mentioned in the public press, if it has been really made, has no other object than the establishment of a police to protect the Canal from any possible excesses of Mahomedan movements against the navigation by the authority of the united European Powers, and to remove the hope of the Orientals that the Powers were not at one upon this point. Of course the acceptance of such a proposal, as it is not consequent upon existing Treaties, must always require the consent of all the Powers represented at the Conference, and of England especially. During the last few days no real vote of the Conference could be taken, and their agreement or the want of the same could not be established, as the Government in France had not been constructed; for the present England, as the most interested, seems to have taken upon herself to prevent any damage to navigation in the Canal.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11, 8.15 A.M.)

(No. 326.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 10, 1882, 11.55 P.M.

WE have agreed to send the following identic telegram to our respective Governments:—

"At the fifteenth meeting, the Ottoman Delegates having expressed the desire to have a Protocol of the meeting, we have drawn one up in the following terms:—

"[Here begins the Protocol.]

"*Protocol of the Meeting of the 10th August, 1882.*

"President, Said Pasha.

"At the opening of the meeting the President renewed the discussion with regard to the Italian proposal on the subject of the Suez Canal, the text of which has been already submitted to the Conference.

"The Representatives of Germany, Austria, Russia, and Turkey confirmed the assent they had previously given to it.

"The British Ambassador declared that his Government adhered to it on condition that it was understood that the effects of the Italian proposal should be limited to the present emergency, and should not prevent, if the necessity occurred, either England or the other Powers from landing troops, and from holding certain posts necessary for the security of the Canal.

"It is, of course, further understood that England retains its entire liberty of action as to such military movements as may be necessary for the re-establishment of the authority of the Khedive.

"The French Ambassador stated that he was expecting instructions shortly.

"The Russian Chargé d'Affaires asked the British Ambassador to give him explanations regarding the occupation of Suez by the British forces.

"The Austrian Ambassador adhered to this request.

"Lord Dufferin replied that this occupation had been effected by order of the British Admiral with a view to saving the town from imminent danger, and ought not to be considered as attacking in any way the international character of the Canal.

"The Minister for Foreign Affairs announced that in consequence of the acceptance by the Ottoman Government of the identic note the Imperial troops would start to-day or to-morrow; and, in reply to an inquiry on the part of the British Ambassador, his Excellency added that they would not land in Egypt before the arrival of the Commissioner and the General-in-chief.

"[Here ends the Protocol.]

"The next meeting is fixed for Monday the 14th."

No. 308.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 11.)

(No. 754. Confidential. Ext. 326.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 10, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of the identic telegram we agreed to send to our respective Governments after the fifteenth meeting of the Egyptian Conference.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 308.

Identical Telegram addressed by the Representatives of the Six Powers to their respective Governments, August 10, 1882.

À LA quinzième séance d'aujourd'hui les Délégués Ottomans, ayant exprimé le désir d'avoir un Protocole de la séance, nous l'avons rédigé dans les termes suivants :—

Protocole de la séance du 10 Août, 1882.

Présidence de son Excellence Saïd Pacha.

Le Président a remis en discussion à l'ouverture de la séance la proposition Italienne concernant le Canal de Suez, dont le texte a déjà été présenté à la Conférence.

Les Représentants d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de Russie, et de Turquie ont exprimé leur adhésion antérieure.

L'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre a déclaré que son Gouvernement adhérerait également à la condition qu'il soit entendu que la proposition Italienne se limite dans ses effets à la crise actuelle et ne soit pas un empêchement, si la nécessité se produit, soit pour l'Angleterre, soit pour les autres Puissances, de mettre des troupes à terre et d'occuper certains points nécessaires à la sécurité du Canal. Il est également entendu que l'Angleterre réserve toute sa liberté d'action pour les opérations militaires ayant en vue le rétablissement de l'autorité du Khédive.

L'Ambassadeur de France a fait savoir qu'il attendait incessamment ses instructions.

Le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie a demandé à l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre des explications sur l'occupation de Suez par les forces Anglaises.

L'Ambassadeur d'Autriche-Hongrie s'est associé à cette demande.

Lord Dufferin a répondu que cette occupation avait été effectuée par ordre de l'Amiral Anglais en vue de sauver la ville d'un danger imminent, et devait être considérée comme ne portant aucune atteinte au caractère international du Canal.

Le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères a annoncé que par suite de l'acceptation par le Gouvernement Ottoman de la note identique, les troupes Impériales allaient partir aujourd'hui ou demain; et en réponse à une demande de l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre, a ajouté qu'elle ne débarqueraient pas en Égypte avant l'arrivée du Commissaire et du Général-en-chef.

No. 309.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11, 12.5 P.M.)

(No. 182.)
(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 11, 1882, 11 A.M.

I HAVE this morning communicated unofficially to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs the substance of Mr. Cartwright's telegram No. 389 of the 8th about return of Europeans to Alexandria.

No. 310.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 11.)

(No. 883. Ext. 182.)

Paris, August 11, 1882.

My Lord,

I HAVE already had the honour to inform your Lordship by telegraph that, in obedience to your orders, I have this morning communicated unofficially to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs the substance of Mr. Cartwright's telegram of the 8th instant, pointing out the disadvantage of the return of fugitives to Alexandria at this moment.

I have the honour to inclose herewith a copy of the letter by which I have made this unofficial communication to the French Minister.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 310.

Viscount Lyons to M. Duclerc.

Paris, August 11, 1882.

M. le Président du Conseil,

IN obedience to instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I have the honour to communicate to your Excellency, unofficially, the substance of a telegram which he has received from Mr. Cartwright, Acting Agent and Consul-General of Her Majesty in Egypt.

In the telegram in question, Mr. Cartwright makes a Report which is in substance as follows :—

"Fugitives are returning to Alexandria in large and increasing numbers, and among them are many of the lowest character, whose presence is particularly objectionable."

"I have considered it to be my duty to intimate to the several Consuls-General that the interest of public security requires that the local authorities and the Admiral, acting on behalf of the Khedive, shall exercise a discretion as to the persons allowed to re-enter the town of Alexandria. I have requested the Consuls-General to take such measures as they may deem necessary, and to inform their Governments of the state of affairs, and I have, in particular, pointed out that, apart from other considerations, the present deficiency of the supply of water renders the return of Europeans most undesirable."

In making this unofficial communication, I am happy, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

No. 311.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 288.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 11, 1882, 4.25 P.M.

AUSTRIAN Chargé d'Affaires told me to-day that his Government thought that as soon as question respecting Suez Canal was settled, and Her Majesty's Government had come to an arrangement with the Porte respecting operations in Egypt, the Conference should suspend its sittings, on the proposal of the President, till military action was concluded.

After establishment of order in Egypt, definitive settlement of future administration should be matter of agreement among all the Conference Powers, as indicated by Lord Dufferin on the 30th ultimo.

He said that Germany, Italy, and Russia agreed.

You may tell Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government concur, but will of course, during the military operations and at their close, make all such arrangements as the interests involved may appear to require, but they adhere to the declaration that the definitive settlement must be subject to a reference to the united Powers of Europe.

No. 311 A.

Sir R. Thompson to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 11.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

War Office, August 11, 1882.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Childers to acquaint you, for the information of Earl Granville, that, with his Lordship's concurrence, he proposes to instruct the General Commanding-in-chief the Expeditionary Force in Egypt to the effect that, although the occasion has not arisen for determining any question of belligerent rights, the rebels under Arabi are to be treated according to the recognized rules of civilized warfare, including the exchange of prisoners.

It will be in Lord Granville's recollection that these instructions will be similar to those dispatched to the General Officer Commanding in Natal during the insurrection in the Transvaal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RALPH THOMPSON.

No. 311 B.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 963.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 11, 1882.

I*TRANSMITTED to your Excellency in my despatch No. 950 of the 9th instant a copy of one from the British Suez Canal Directors,* giving their opinion on the arrangements to be made for regulating the traffic through the Canal during the landing of British troops, and stating their views as to the mode and time of approaching the Suez Canal Company on the subject.

Her Majesty's Government concur in the recommendations made by the British Directors, and they desire that your Excellency will take such steps as you may consider best calculated to obtain the object in view, making use according to your discretion of the information respecting M. Ferdinand de Lesseps' proceedings and communications, which is contained in the papers which are noted in the margin,† viz., his telegram of the 20th ultimo, recommending the occupation of the Canal by British and French forces; his telegrams of the 20th ultimo deprecating any such occupation, and assuming to give assurances that, so long as he remained on the spot, no landing of French troops should take place; his telegram of the 4th instant, renewing his protest against any measures which might be taken for the protection of the Canal by the British naval authorities, and stating his determination to resist any act of war along the Canal; his further telegram of the 5th, reporting that he had announced to Admiral Hoskins his intention to resist any occupation, and representing that he had obtained from the Admiral an assurance that no landing would take place except on the demand of the Canal Company; and the telegrams addressed to M. de Lesseps by Arabi Pasha, one on the 27th ultimo, and the other without date, and of which your Excellency will find translations inclosed in the letter from the Admiralty of the 8th instant, of which I transmit herewith a copy.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 311 C.

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Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 271.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 11, 1882.

I INCLOSE, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a *note verbale* which the Portuguese Minister has placed in my hands, referring to a proposal supposed to have originated with the Italian Government, and to have been under the consideration of the Conference, for the nomination of a Commission to be charged with all matters concerning the safety of the Suez Canal, and in which Commission it is further stated Spain and Holland were to be included.‡

The object of M. d'Antas' representation appears to have been to place on record the claim of Portugal also to be represented in any such Commission as that above referred to.

I informed M. d'Antas that I had not heard anything of a proposal for a Commission for the Suez Canal in which Spain and Holland were to be included.

The proposals of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the Suez Canal had reference only to measures for dealing with the present dangers to the navigation, and they would be glad that all the Powers interested should co-operate in those measures.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

* No. 190.

† Admiral Hoskins to Sir B. Seymour, July 29 and August 3; British Suez Canal Directors, No. 13, July 22; Part IV, No. 1016; and *ante*, Nos. 120 and 192.

‡ No. 131.

No. 311*.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 237. Ext. 288.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 11, 1882.

I HAVE informed your Excellency by telegraph that Her Majesty's Government concur in the suggestions made by the Austro-Hungarian Government through M. de Hengelmüller, as recorded in my immediately preceding despatch, but that during the military operations in Egypt, and at their close, Her Majesty's Government will of course make such arrangements as may appear to be required by the interests involved.

I have added that the declaration which we have made that the definitive settlement must be subject to a reference to the united European Powers is adhered to by us.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 311 D.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

E
(No. 236.)

Foreign Office, August 11, 1882.

Sir,

THE Austrian Chargé d'Affaires called upon me this afternoon, and asked whether it was true that we had come to an arrangement with the Sultan respecting intervention in Egypt.

I told him that we were on the fair way of doing so. The Sultan had agreed to issue a Proclamation denouncing Arabi Pasha as a rebel, and supporting the present Khedive, and Lord Dufferin had instructions to negotiate a Military Convention with the Porte.

M. Hengelmüller said that his Government were of opinion that when the cognate questions with regard to the military operations to restore order in Egypt and the protection of the Suez Canal were settled, it would be well that the Conference, without actually coming to an end, should suspend its sittings till military action was concluded.

There is no doubt, he said, in the opinion of the Austrian Government, and they do not believe that any other Power is likely to hold a different view, that after the establishment of order in Egypt, the definitive settlement of the conditions under which its administration shall be carried on must form the subject of deliberation among all the Cabinets who have taken part in the Conference. The declaration made by Lord Dufferin to the members of the Conference on the 30th ultimo and the reply of the Porte shows that England and Turkey are of their opinion.

The Austro-Hungarian Government think, therefore, that the sittings of the Conference should be adjourned on the proposal of the President, with an expression of its amicable agreement, and taking note, not in the form of a protest or a remonstrance, for which there is no occasion, but as a simple statement of fact, that it rests with each Power to secure on its own behalf that the definitive settlement of the Egyptian question must be reserved for the discussion and decision of Europe.

M. de Hengelmüller said that the Austro-Hungarian Government had come to an agreement with that of Germany on this matter, and that Italy and Russia agreed in their view.

They thought this would be a very fitting manner for the Conference to suspend its present action, and that Lord Dufferin's declaration of the 30th July would furnish an appropriate basis for the statement of their views.

M. de Hengelmüller added that his Government had not made any distinct proposal to the above effect, as they thought that a step of this kind should take its rise in the Conference.

I thanked M. de Hengelmüller for this communication, and said that I had no doubt as regards my personal opinion, but that I would defer the expression of it till I had mentioned what he had told me to my colleagues.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 312.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 519. Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 11, 1882, 7.55 P.M.

AS soon as the text of the Sultan's Proclamation is settled, get a sufficient number of copies printed and send them direct to Malet at Alexandria for promulgation by our own authorities, if desirable.

No. 313.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 415.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 11, 1882, 8.10 P.M.

WITH reference to Admiral Seymour's inquiry as to stopping importation of coal at Damietta, Law Officers consider that a blockade should not be established, but that the Khedive may issue a Decree closing any port against the importation of coal or

munitions of war under penalty of seizure, and authorizing British Admiral to enforce the Decree within Egyptian waters.

No. 314.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 273. Ext. 415.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 11, 1882.

I HAVE to state, for your information, that a letter has been received in this Department from the Board of Admiralty, forwarding copy of a telegram, dated the 9th instant, from Admiral Sir B. Seymour, reporting that the Egyptian forces were being supplied with coal via Damietta, and inquiring whether he might establish a blockade of the coast in consequence.

Her Majesty's Government have decided, after consultation with the Law Officers of the Crown, that it would not be desirable to establish a blockade, and that the best mode of meeting the difficulty would be that the Khedive should issue a Decree closing any port against the importation of coal or munitions of war, under penalty of their being seized, and authorizing Sir B. Seymour, or the officers acting under his orders, to enforce the Decree within the territorial waters of Egypt.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 315.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11, 8.45 P.M.)

(No. 327.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 11, 1882, 11 A.M.

THERE is a general inclination on the part of the European members of the Conference to adjourn, on the ground that there is nothing left for them to do until the military programme shall have been fulfilled.

A desire will, I think, be evinced to incorporate with the Protocol of Adjournment a summary of the communication I made, in accordance with your Lordship's telegram No. 455 of the 29th ultimo, at the twelfth sitting of the Conference, to the effect that, when the military object in view had been obtained, England would invite the aid of the Powers to make provision for the future security and good government of Egypt. I conclude there will be no objection to this.

No. 316.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 11.)

(No. 755. Confidential. Ext. 327.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 11, 1882.

I HAVE remarked a general inclination on the part of the European members of the Conference to adjourn on the ground that there is nothing left for them to do until the military programme shall have been fulfilled.

A desire will, I think, be evinced to incorporate with the Protocol of adjournment a summary of the communication I made in accordance with your Lordship's telegram No. 455 of the 29th ultimo at the twelfth sitting of the Conference, to the effect that when the military object in view had been attained, England would invite the aid of the Powers to make provision for the future security and good government of Egypt.

I conclude that there will be no objection to this being done.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 317.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11, 8.45 P.M.)

(No. 328.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 11, 1882, 12.45 P.M.

AS you will see by the identic telegram, I have adhered to Count Corti's proposal respecting the Canal, under the reserves mentioned in your Lordship's telegram No. 105 [sic].

No. 318.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 11.)

(No. 756. Confidential. Ext. 328.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 11, 1882.

AS your Lordship will see from the copy of the Protocol drawn up at the fifteenth sitting of the Egyptian Conference, inclosed in my despatch No. 754, Confidential, of yesterday's date, I have adhered to Count Corti's proposal respecting the Suez Canal, under the reserves mentioned in your Lordship's telegram No. 505 of the 9th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 319.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11, 11.45 P.M.)

(No. 329.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 11, 1882, 1 P.M.

I HAVE communicated the substance of your telegram No. 511 to my colleagues. (Sent to Alexandria.)

No. 320.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 11.)

(No. 757. Confidential. Ext. 329.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 11, 1882.

I HAVE communicated to my colleagues in the Conference, and to M. Condouriotis, the Greek Minister, the substance of Mr. Cartwright's telegram No. 387, repeated to me in your Lordship's telegram No. 511 of yesterday's date, deprecating the return at present of foreigners to Alexandria.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 321.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11, 10 P.M.)

(No. 330.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 11, 1882, 2.3 P.M.

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 509 of yesterday.

Most of the Ambassadors made representations at the last two meetings of the Conference on the subject of the Mussulman excitement at Smyrna, Aidin, Damascus, Beyrout, Scutari, &c., and the Foreign Minister has undertaken to maintain order. The effervescence seems to be considerable [?].

No. 322.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 11.)

(No. 758. Confidential. Ext. 330.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 11, 1882.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 509 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform you that most of the Ambassadors have made representations at the last two meetings of the Conference on the subject of the Mussulman excitement at Smyrna, Aidin, Damascus, Beyrout, Scutari, and elsewhere.

The Foreign Minister has undertaken to maintain order, but the effervescence seems to be considerable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 323.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11, 10 P.M.)

(No. 331.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 11, 1882, 3 P.M.

YOU will have observed that at the Conference yesterday Saïd Pasha gave a positive undertaking that the Turkish troops will not be allowed to reach the coast of Egypt until after Dervish has arrived. This statement was made in consequence of my additional warnings that no Turkish troops will be allowed to land until a satisfactory Convention had been signed and the Proclamation issued.

I communicated the basis of the Convention to his Excellency yesterday, and I am to wait upon him this afternoon to discuss it. In the meantime, I have sent Sir A. Sandison to him with the suggested alterations in the Proclamation.

No. 324.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 11.)

(No. 759. Confidential. Ext. 331.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 11, 1882.

YOU will have observed that at the meeting of the Conference yesterday Saïd Pasha positively undertook that the Ottoman troops will not be allowed to reach the coast of Egypt until after the arrival there of Dervish Pasha.

This statement was made in consequence of my clear warnings that no Ottoman troops would be allowed to land until a satisfactory Convention had been signed and the Proclamation issued.

I communicated the basis of the Convention to his Excellency yesterday, and I am to wait upon his Excellency this afternoon to discuss it.

In the meantime, I have sent Sir A. Sandison to him with the alterations in the Proclamation, as suggested in your Lordship's telegram No. 508 of the 10th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 325.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11, 11:45 P.M.)

(No. 332.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 11, 1882, 3:15 P.M.

I HAVE seen a telegram from the Turkish Ambassador to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that M. de Giers advised the Porte to refuse issue of the Proclamation or to sign the Convention.

This information may be thoroughly relied on; but please use it with caution, so as not to compromise Ambassador or personages here.

I am again warned that, within the last few days, France warned the Porte to ask for its intervention, as by that means France would be in a position to mitigate the English demands, and thwart our ultimate designs on Egypt. The Porte has declined to listen to these advances.

I have difficulty in believing foregoing, but it comes to me from a very direct source. I will try to verify it.

No. 326.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 11.)

(No. 760. Confidential. Ext. 332.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 11, 1882.

I HAVE seen a telegram from the Ottoman Ambassador at St. Petersburg to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that M. de Giers advised the Sublime Porte to refuse to issue the Proclamation or to sign the Convention.

This information may be thoroughly relied upon, but I trust that your Lordship will use it with caution, so as not to compromise the Ambassador or other personages here.

I am again warned that within the last few days France advised the Sublime Porte to ask for its intervention, as by that means France would be in a position to mitigate the severity of our demands, and thwart our ultimate designs on Egypt. The Sublime Porte has declined to listen to these advances.

I have some difficulty in believing this, but it comes to me from a very direct source. I will endeavour to verify it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 327.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11, 10:45 P.M.)

(No. 333.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 11, 1882, 3:30 P.M.

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 510 of 10th instant.

I have instructed Consuls to report to Admiral Seymour movements of Turkish ships of war, &c., giving names of vessels, so that they may not be counted twice over. No men-of-war have gone hence, nor do I think there is any intention of sending any, except at your Lordship's request, and no more transports since I last telegraphed to Cartwright on the 6th instant. Therefore told Consuls to communicate through Malet with Admiral, as latter has not got all the cyphers used.

No. 328.

*Mr. Morier to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12.)***E**

(No. 86. Confidential.)

My Lord,

San Ildefonso, August 7, 1882.

THE language of the press of this country in reference to the Egyptian question, which is the all-engrossing topic of the day, is so inconceivably foolish and puerile, that it would be a waste of time to attempt to give an adequate idea of it. Unmeasured and unreasoning abuse of Great Britain and of the policy of Her Majesty's Government forms the staple commodity offered to their readers by the daily press of every party. Gibraltar naturally furnishes a principal ingredient in this consensus of vituperation. The "Liberal," the most important organ of the Liberal party, hopes that the result of the present crisis will be a European coalition, which will restore Gibraltar to Spain as a punishment for our greed in seizing Egypt. On the other hand, M. Canovas is represented, on the Conservative side, as having suggested that Spain should offer 40,000 men to Great Britain for the purpose of putting down Arabi Bey, and receive Gibraltar back in payment of this service.

[1410]

2 P

Amidst this *charivari* I have endeavoured to ascertain what may be safely regarded as representing the opinion of the Government, or rather the direction in which the Government wishes that public opinion should move, and I have grounds for believing that the inclosed telegrams, purporting to come from Vienna, furnish an indication of the kind desired.

They have been forwarded to the press by the Agence Fabra, but bear strong internal evidence of home manufacture. Now Señor Fabra is at present at La Granja, and his intimate relations with the Spanish Foreign Office, equally established here, are well known.

The day after the first of these so-called Vienna telegrams appeared, a telegram from San Ildefonso, in very large type, was printed in the Madrid papers, stating that the telegram from Vienna of the day before could be regarded as strictly accurate. The "Correo," which is universally regarded as a Ministerial paper, observes, in publishing the telegram, that the insistence with which, from all quarters, news arrive of the favourable reception given by all Powers, except Great Britain, to Spain's claim to be admitted to be heard on Egyptian affairs, shows that this must be true. Lastly, a short article, of which I inclose herewith a translation by Mr. Langley, which has appeared in the same paper, would seem to leave little doubt respecting the direction in which official Spanish thoughts are, at the present moment, running, in reference to the part which the "disconcerted" action of Europe has forced upon Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. B. D. MORIER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 328.

Telegrams published in the Madrid "Correspondencia" of August 5 and 6, 1882, and purporting to have been sent from Vienna.

August 5.—There are news respecting the answers given by the Great Powers to the important Circular of the Spanish Minister of State, stating the grounds on which Spain should be heard and consulted with reference to the affair of the Suez Canal.

It appears that Italy was the first Power which replied, and that she did so in terms which are very honourable for Spain, and which recognize her well-founded right to occupy the position due to her, not only on account of her geographical situation on the Mediterranean, but also on account of her possessions in Oceania.

Russia followed Italy, and then Austria and France, all showing themselves in agreement with the desires of the Spanish Government.

As for Germany, it appears that she is the Power which has taken up this matter most warmly.

England has limited herself to asking time for her answer.

It is not known what reply has been returned by Turkey, to whom also the Spanish Cabinet directed itself, as was natural, considering her interests in Egypt; but it is believed that that Power is in complete accord with Spain, since the Government of the Sultan, as is proved by the establishment of a permanent Ottoman Legation at Madrid, has for some time shown to the Spanish Government its desire that Spain should occupy the position which is her due in the European concert.

The attitude of England, which disposes her intention to separate herself from the Continental Powers as regards the affairs of Egypt, is contributing powerfully to the tendency now observable on the part of those Powers to ally themselves together, and to arrive at an understanding for the event that England should persevere in her selfish views respecting the Suez Canal.

August 6.—According to news received from Berlin, it is a positive fact, Sir Charles Dilke's declarations of the day before yesterday notwithstanding, that the German Government has issued an official invitation for the admission of Spain to the Conference. This invitation was addressed to France, and, as soon as she is able to return a reply, Germany will likewise communicate the invitation to the other Great Powers, all of which, with the exception of England, have shown themselves favourable to the wishes of the Spanish Government in this matter.

The claims of Spain are occupying the closest attention, not only of the statesmen of Austria and Germany, but also of those of Russia and Italy, who are of opinion that the Continent of Europe cannot allow that England, which is in possession of such strategical points as Gibraltar, Malta, and Cyprus, should be enabled, by the dominion

over Alexandria and the banks of the Suez Canal, to convert the Mediterranean into an English lake.

Neither the European balance of power nor the general interests of navigation, which concern not only continental Europe, but the maritime commerce of the United States as well, could tolerate the accomplishment by England of the design which she has apparently been cherishing for a long time, and the first instalment of which was, without doubt, the acquisition of the Island of Cyprus.

Inclosure 2 in No. 328.

Extract from the "Correo" of August 5, 1882.

(Translation.)

MEANWHILE England is advancing further and further in her enterprise, and, up to now, without meeting with any serious obstacle. Yesterday's telegrams informed us that her troops had occupied the town of Suez, which is situated at the Red Sea entrance to the Canal. To-day another telegram says that the English Ambassador at Constantinople has declared to the Sultan that the British squadron will not allow the landing of Turkish troops in Egypt unless the Porte previously accepts the conditions laid down by the English Cabinet. And, notwithstanding all this, the Governments of the other Powers do not appear to be in any haste to place a limit on England's action, and the Conference at Constantinople gives no more signs of life than if it were defunct.

If things continue a little longer in the way they are now going, the European concert will have no further voice in Egypt, and England will be able completely to arrange everything there as it may best please her. It seems impossible that Europe should consent to England's—so to speak—inclosing in a ring-fence her possessions in the Mediterranean, and to her making herself complete mistress of this sea by taking possession of the entrance thereto from the East. But so great is the disunion and so strong the distrust which exist among the continental Powers, that the fear arises that this may become a *fait accompli*, absurd as it may seem, and blind as it may be necessary to consider the European Governments if they tolerate it.

If Great Britain accomplishes her task she will have done "good business." A little audacity, easy because unattended by risk, will have sufficed to procure for her immense political, commercial, and colonial advantages which, even at the cost of enormous sacrifices, would have appeared cheap to her.

No. 329.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 8 A.M.)

(No. 334.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 11, 1882, 11:30 P.M.

I CANNOT discover the slightest signs which confirm the idea of Halim Pasha being sent to Egypt. A friend of mine called upon him yesterday and found him ill in bed, and he himself had certainly no knowledge of any such design.

No. 330.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 12.)

(No. 762. Confidential. Ext. 334.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 11, 1882.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 502 of the 8th instant, I cannot discover the slightest sign which confirms the idea of Halim Pasha being sent to Egypt. A friend of mine called on him yesterday and found him ill in bed. His Highness had himself certainly no knowledge of any such designs.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 331.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 8 A.M.)

(No. 335.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 11, 1882, 11.40 P.M.

I CALLED on the Foreign Minister this afternoon, but he told me that he was not yet ready to discuss the Convention. There is to be a Great Council at the Palace to-night, and I am to see him again to-morrow.

He was unwilling to offer a conjecture as to how the Convention would be taken at the Palace, but he gave me hopes that the Sultan would not object to the proposed alterations in the Proclamation, though even as to this he would not risk a strong assurance.

No. 332.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 12.)

(No. 763. Confidential. Ext. 335.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 11, 1882.

I CALLED on the Foreign Minister this afternoon, but found that his Excellency was not yet ready to discuss the Military Convention. There is to be a great Council at the Palace to-night, and I am to see his Excellency again to-morrow. He is unwilling to offer a conjecture as to how the Convention would be taken at the Palace, but he gave me hopes that the Sultan would not object to the proposed alterations in the Proclamation referred to in my despatch No. 759, Confidential, of this day's date, though even as regards this he would not risk a positive assurance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 333.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 8 A.M.)

(No. 336.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 11, 1882, 11.45 P.M.

WITH reference to my telegram of this morning No. 333, I asked Saïd Pasha again whether the French were running counter to us. He again assured me that he had seen no signs of it, though he admitted that their attitude had recently become "louche," but he could not exactly define what he meant.

With regard to the Russians, however, his Excellency admitted that they had begun to interfere, and though he did not tell me how, it was evidently in a sense adverse to our present objects.

No. 334.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 12.)

(No. 764. Confidential. Ext. 336.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 11, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 760, Confidential, of this day's date, I have the honour to state that the Foreign Minister assured me, in reply to a question of mine as to whether the French were running counter to us, that he had seen no signs of it, though he admitted that their attitude had recently become "louche;" but he could not exactly define what he meant.

With regard to the Russians, however, his Excellency admitted that they had begun to interfere, and though he did not tell me how, it was evidently in a sense adverse to our present object.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 335.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 8 A.M.)

(No. 337.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 11, 1882, 11.59 P.M.

DERVISH PASHA'S departure has been postponed.

The Foreign Minister seems to wish, however, that he should arrive a few days before the troops.

No. 336.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 12.)

(No. 765. Confidential. Ext. 337.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 11, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that Dervish Pasha's departure for Egypt has been postponed. The Foreign Minister seems to wish, however, that he should arrive there a few days before the troops.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 337.

Mr. Eyres to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 8 A.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Scutari, August 11, 1882, 9 P.M.

FOLLOWING sent to Lord Dufferin:—

"With reference to my telegram of yesterday, departure of troops has been delayed by arrival of a second transport from Constantinople, with 500 men aboard to fill the number of the three battalions. The two transports will probably start on Sunday for Alexandria direct.

"(Sent home.)"

No. 338.

Consul-General Eldridge to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 10.48 A.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Beyrout, August 12, 1882, 7.10 A.M.

FRENCH iron-clad "Thétis" arrived from Port Saïd yesterday. Christians are alarmed, and some are leaving the towns for mountains before the Baïram.

No. 339.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 521.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 12, 1882, 4.40 P.M.

FOLLOWING telegram from Rear-Admiral at Suez explains hoisting of British flag. His action has been approved:—

"On landing, found no Egyptian colour flying. After explaining to Acting Governor that the British were acting in the interest of and with the full consent of the Khedive, hoisted British and Egyptian colours side by side on the same mast, which has had the desired effect of greatly reassuring the people."

No. 340.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 495. Ext. 521.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 12, 1882.

I INCLOSE herewith, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a telegram which has been received at the Admiralty from Rear-Admiral Sir William Hewett at Suez, and which explains the hoisting of the British flag at that place.

Sir William Hewett's action in this matter has been approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Inclosure in No. 340.

Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.)

ON landing found no Egyptian colour flying. After explaining to the Acting Governor that the British were acting in the interest of all and with the full consent of the Khedive hoisted British and Egyptian colours side by side on the same mast, which has had the desired effect of greatly reassuring the people.

No. 341.

*Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.**

(No. 522.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 12, 1882, 4.45 P.M.

COMMANDER of "Seagull" reported to Admiral at Suez on 8th instant that there was no necessity for man-of-war at Jeddah or Souakin.

No. 342.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 12.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

Admiralty, August 12, 1882.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the consideration of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a draft telegram proposed to be sent to Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour upon the proceedings to be taken by the Naval Officers to be employed on the Suez Canal when a military force is dispatched there for the purpose of supporting the authority of His Highness the Khedive of Egypt. My Lords will be glad to receive the concurrence of the Secretary of State, or to be favoured with any suggestions.

A similar letter has been addressed to the Secretary of State for War.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

Inclosure in No. 342.

Draft Telegram to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

WHEN force goes to Canal you will yourself precede it by a few hours, and request Canal authorities to give temporary precedence to transports over merchant-ships, and keep sections clear for time you think necessary. Assure them interruption to traffic, if any, will not exceed a certain time, the shorter the better. If authorities refuse, Naval Officers must assume duty of giving preference to transports and keeping Canal clear. Authorities should be treated with forbearance, and informed action necessary because of

* Also to Sir E. Malet (No. 419).

their opposition to measures necessary for obeying Khedive's orders to restore order and public security on Canal. Report date of dispatch of force to Canal, so that we may bring pressure upon authorities from French Government and English Directors, by whose advice these instructions are given.

No. 343.

Sir R. Thompson to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 12.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

War Office, August 12, 1882.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you the inclosed copies of three telegrams which have been received in, and dispatched from, this Department with regard to affairs in Egypt.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RALPH THOMPSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 343.

Sir J. Adye to Mr. Childers.

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 11, 1882, 3.30 P.M.

IMPORTANT that the Sultan be again urged to proclaim Arabi a rebel.

Inclosure 2 in No. 343.

Sir J. Adye to Mr. Childers.

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 11, 1882, 3.30 P.M.

IN anticipation of entering [Canal?], am preparing Proclamation in Arabic that our object is to re-establish authority of Khedive, to fight only against those in arms against him; that peaceful inhabitants will be treated kindly, their religion, churches, families, and property respected, all supplies paid for, and inviting friendly Chiefs to visit me. Have consulted Malet, who concurs, and also Khedive.

Inclosure 3 in No. 343.

Mr. Childers to Sir J. Adye.

(Telegraphic.)

August 12, 1882.

YOURS yesterday.

We approve, but Proclamation should recite that it is issued on the authority and by command of the Khedive and signed by General. Separate notice, signed by Khedive, should be printed and issued to Canal employes, reciting language of Convention with Canal Company of the 22nd February, 1866, sections 9, 10, and 11, stating that Admiral and General have come to restore good order and public security, and have power to occupy any strategical points necessary to defend the country against the rebels, and warning all persons who may contravene of serious consequences.

No. 344.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 7 P.M.)

(No. 183.)

(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 12, 1882, 4.45 P.M.

I HAVE spoken to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs in the sense of your despatch No. 963 of yesterday. He promises to write to M. de Lesseps to-day, but at the same time he begs Her Majesty's Government to treat with the greatest patience a man whose reputation and popularity are so great in France. I said that the British officers had shown, and still desired to show, all possible consideration and forbearance towards M. de Lesseps; but that it must be remembered that he was making every effort

to thwart our military operations and to help and encourage our adversaries. The French Minister for Foreign Affairs told me that M. de Lesseps had telegraphed very strongly to recommend the cause of Arabi to the new French Government. His Excellency added that he had taken means to disabuse M. de Lesseps of all idea that Arabi could receive the slightest countenance from this Government.

I fully agree with the English Directors that it is most important that no information as to the time or place of disembarking our troops should, directly or indirectly, reach M. de Lesseps until the last possible moment; and I think that on this account caution is necessary in communicating with the French Government about him.

No. 345.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 12.)

(No. 892. Very Confidential Ext. 183.)

Paris, August 12, 1882.

My Lord,

I HAD this morning the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch No. 963 of yesterday, and its numerous inclosures, respecting the proceedings of M. de Lesseps in Egypt.

I went this afternoon to M. Duclerc, and, after adverting to what I had said to him on the subject two days before, at my first interview with him on his accession to office, I took advantage of the information afforded by the inclosures in your Lordship's despatch to give him instances of the extraordinary and unfriendly conduct of M. de Lesseps.

M. Duclerc promised to write to-day to M. de Lesseps, with a view to inducing him to take another line, but his Excellency added that he trusted that Her Majesty's Government would show great patience ("longanimité") in dealing with a man who enjoyed in France so high a reputation and so extensive a popularity as did M. de Lesseps.

I answered that Her Majesty's Government and Her Majesty's officers on the spot had shown the utmost consideration for M. de Lesseps, and the greatest forbearance towards him, and that they earnestly desired to continue to do so, but that it must be remembered that we were engaged in military operations, and that M. de Lesseps seemed to hesitate at nothing in his efforts to thwart our operations and to help and encourage our adversaries.

M. Duclerc proceeded to tell me very confidentially that M. de Lesseps had telegraphed strongly to recommend the cause of Arabi Pasha to the new French Government, and to bespeak their support for him. His Excellency added that he had immediately taken means to disabuse M. de Lesseps of all idea that Arabi could receive the slightest countenance from the present French Government.

I have not much hope that the French Government will succeed in moderating M. de Lesseps' feelings, or in inducing him to desist from opposing the British expedition by every means in his power. Consequently, I agree entirely with the English Directors of the Suez Canal Company in thinking it to be most important that no information as to the time or place of the disembarkation of our troops should reach M. de Lesseps directly or indirectly until the latest possible moment. I think, indeed, that on this account caution is necessary in our communications with the French Government. Remonstrances from that Government, made at our instance, might possibly rather serve as indications to him of the time and place at which he might do most mischief than deter him from attempting to do all the mischief in his power.

I have already had the honour to forward the substance of this despatch to your Lordship by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 346.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 7 P.M.)

(No. 184.)

(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 12, 1882, 4.45 P.M.

MY despatch No. 883 of yesterday.

French Minister has sent by telegraph cautions against French being too hasty in

returning to Alexandria; but he desires to call your Lordship's attention to the phrase, "a discretion as to the persons allowed to re-enter," in Mr. Cartwright's telegram. He says that there are so many French who have important interests in Alexandria that it would be a very serious matter to hinder their return.

No. 347.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 12.)

(No. 894. Ext. 184.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 12, 1882.

IN my despatch No. 883 of yesterday I had the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of a letter in which I had communicated unofficially to M. Duclerc the substance of the telegram dated the 8th instant, in which Mr. Cartwright points out the disadvantages attending the precipitate return of fugitives to Alexandria at the present moment.

M. Duclerc told me this afternoon that he had circulated by telegraph cautions against the French being too hasty in going back to Alexandria, but that there was a phrase in Mr. Cartwright's telegram to which he would beg me to call your Lordship's attention. The telegram stated that the British Admiral, acting on behalf of the Khedive, must exercise a discretion as to the persons allowed to re-enter the town. Now there were, M. Duclerc went on to say, many French who had important interests in Alexandria, and it would be a very serious matter to hinder their return.

I replied that the whole tenour of the telegram, as well as the accounts I had seen of the measures actually taken, relieved me from all apprehension of obstacles being thrown in the way of Frenchmen of this description.

I have had the honour to forward the substance of the present despatch to your Lordship by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 348.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 9 P.M.)

(No. 393.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 12, 1882, 6.10 P.M.

I HAVE strongly urged the Khedive to change his Ministry without delay, on the ground that, at the opening of the campaign, he should have Ministers in whom both he and we can trust. I have spoken in the same sense to Chérif Pasha, and I trust that the change may be made immediately after the Baïram, which is on Tuesday next.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 349.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 12.)

(No. 530. Ext. 393.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 12, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report that immediately after my arrival here I took the first opportunity to urge the Khedive strongly to change his present Ministry, on the ground that it would be necessary, when military operations commenced, that he should have a Ministry in whom both His Highness and Her Majesty's Government can have confidence.

To-day Chérif Pasha came to my house, and I have spoken to his Excellency in the above sense; and I hope that immediately after the Baïram, which is on Tuesday next, the change will be made.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 11:30 P.M.)

(No. 99.)

(Telegraphic.)

Naples, August 12, 1882, 5:55 P.M.

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs has requested me to express his great satisfaction at Mr. Gladstone's declarations at the Mansion House respecting policy of Her Majesty's Government in Egypt.

No. 351.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 12.)

(No. 340. Ext. 99.)

My Lord,

Naples, August 12, 1882.

M. MANCINI, whom I saw this afternoon, referred to the speech delivered by Mr. Gladstone at the Mansion House on the 9th instant, and requested me to express the great satisfaction with which he had read the declaration of Mr. Gladstone, respecting the policy of Her Majesty's Government in Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 352.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 11:30 P.M.)

(No. 100.)

(Telegraphic.)

Naples, August 12, 1882, 6:25 P.M.

FRENCH Minister for Foreign Affairs having informed Italian Chargé d'Affaires that he considers recent vote of the Chamber as imposing upon French Government a policy of complete inaction in Egyptian affairs, and, consequently, that he is much embarrassed with regard to acceptance of Italian proposal respecting Canal, Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs has desired Chargé d'Affaires to say that acceptance would not be incompatible with the sense attached to vote, because the proposal goes no further than preparations, as the reservation of England imposes no obligation, but only grants the faculty to any Power to employ military measures. He hopes, therefore, instructions may be sent to the French Ambassador to sign the Protocol to which all the other Powers have agreed. If the French Ambassador does not receive these instructions, he suggests Protocol being left open for adhesion of France later, in order that adjournment of Conference until after military operations are concluded may take place on Monday.

No. 353.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 12.)

(No. 341. Ext. 100.)

My Lord,

Naples, August 12, 1882.

I CALLED upon M. Mancini to-day, when his Excellency informed me that in consequence of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs having informed the Italian Chargé d'Affaires that he considered that the recent vote of the Chamber imposed a policy of complete abstention from Egyptian affairs upon the French Government, and that he was consequently much embarrassed as to the acceptance of the Italian proposal respecting the protection of the Suez Canal, he had desired the Italian Chargé d'Affaires to say that the acceptance of the proposal would in his (M. Mancini's) opinion not be incompatible with the sense which M. Duclerc attached to the vote, because the proposal only goes as far as naval precautions, and the reservation of England imposes no obligation, but only grants the faculty to herself or any other Power to employ military measures, if necessary.

His Excellency added that he had desired M. Ressaun to express the hope that the French Ambassador would receive instructions to sign the Protocol, which had

already been accepted by all the other Powers. But if these instructions were not sent his Excellency suggested that the Protocol should be left open for the present for the adhesion of France at a later date, so that the adjournment of the Conference until after the conclusion of military operations may take place on Monday the 14th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 354.

Consul-General Blunt to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12, 11:30 P.M.)

(No. 8.)

(Telegraphic.)

Salonica, August 12, 1882, 8 P.M.

A TELEGRAM of Porte was wired through here yesterday evening requesting authorities of Scutari to commence embarkation of troops ordered for service in Egypt.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 355.

Sir J. Stokes to Earl Granville.—(Received August 13.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

11, Gledhow Gardens, South Kensington, August 13, 1882.

I HAD the honour last night to receive Lord Tenterden's despatch of the 10th instant, communicating Sir E. Malet's proposal of the 18th ultimo to undertake the deepening of the entrance to the harbour of Alexandria during our occupation of that city, together with the reply of the Admiralty dated the 3rd instant, and requesting me to offer any observations I may have to make on Sir Edward Malet's suggestion.

In obedience to these directions I have the honour to report as follows:—

In my No. 4, Alexandria Harbour Dues, of the 23rd August, 1881,* I had the honour to lay before your Lordship the Report of a small International Commission of Engineers, who, at the request of the Egyptian Government, examined this question.

We estimated the cost of the work at 260,000*l.*, and suggested that a fresh detailed survey of the site selected by us for the opening should be made, in order to determine more exactly than we could do from the surveys hitherto made the amount of excavation necessary.

We further recommended that tenders should be invited from a certain number of contractors, and that certain experiments should be carried out, the results of which would guide the Government in the price to be accorded per cubic metre of excavation.

I had also the honour, in my Report to your Lordship, to reproduce the observations made in 1880 to the Alexandria Harbour Dues Commission touching the readiness of the merchants of Alexandria to supply the means of carrying out the works, and to agree to a moderate Tariff for the repayment of the loan; I also stated the amount of dues on tonnage and merchandize that would be required for the purpose.

I have brought all these points under your Lordship's notice at this moment because, although fully agreeing with Sir E. Malet in the great advantage of at once commencing a work of so much importance to British trade, the present abnormal state of affairs affects the conditions considered by the International Commission as regards works, and by myself as regards the finance of the question, to such an extent that the mode of procedure must be examined almost *de novo*.

First, as regards the finance, it is impossible to say, after recent events, what would be the views of the merchants. United action amongst men of so many nationalities would be now even less attainable than when I was in Alexandria in 1879-80, and their confidence in the mercantile prosperity of the port, based on that of the country under the Control as it existed in 1879-80, must have sustained a shock from which it will not recover until they see a stable order of things once more established. My estimate of the Tariff necessary to repay the money advanced would not probably be much affected by the present derangement of trade, because the work must take four or five years to carry out, and the Tariff would not be levied until the new channel was given up to use.

* Confidential No. 4500.

In the course of those four or five years, it may reasonably be expected that trade will have resumed its usual course, and even that a more settled state of affairs will have been brought to pass, to the great benefit of the country; for this reason I have no doubts about the ultimate repayment of the capital. I have therefore the honour to suggest that Her Majesty's Government should assist the Khedive in the prosecution of the work by guaranteeing a loan to be applied exclusively to these works, and to be repaid by the proceeds of a Tariff to be specially levied for the purpose.

As the Tariff would be only a slight addition to the existing Tariff for harbour and customs dues, which are under English superintendence, there would be no extra cost of collection, and no danger of the proceeds being diverted to other purposes. The Danube Works Loan, which was obtained under a similar guarantee in 1868, will have been paid off next April, without this country having had to pay a shilling under its guarantee, which was of immense benefit to trade.

I have treated this part of the difficulty first, because, if that is overcome, I do not think that those connected with the works themselves would be insuperable; and unless the financial difficulty is removed, there is no use in entering upon a consideration of the others.

As regards carrying out the recommendations of the International Commission of last year, certain parts of them are certainly facilitated by the present state of things. It ought to be easy to make the necessary survey with so many British men-of-war in the harbour, and the experiments with dynamite might also be carried out. On the other hand, it would be difficult for contractors to make any offers in the present disturbed state of the labour market.

Our proposals last year were framed partly with a view to avoid arousing international susceptibilities; it would, under present circumstances, perhaps be better to avoid contractors, and to organize the work as one carried out by the Egyptian Government by means of English intervention. If placed under the direction of an English civil engineer during our temporary occupation of the harbour, and continued by the same agency after that occupation ceases, the work could probably be done in the best and most economical manner. It is one of such immense importance to this country, both politically and commercially, that I strongly recommend it to your Lordship's early and favourable consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. STOKES.

No. 356.

Consul-General Blunt to Earl Granville.—(Received August 13.)

(No. 9.)
(Telegraphic.)

Salonica, August 12, 1882.

FOLLOWING Turkish ships of war are now in this port: one iron-clad, the "Nedjimi-Shefket," having five guns, 183 men aboard, and flying flag of Vice-Admiral Mehmed Pasha; and two dispatch-boats, named the "Ismail" with three guns and 70 men, and the "Peikidjaret," with two guns and 45 men.
(Sent to Therapia and Alexandria.)

No. 357.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 13, 8:30 P.M.)

(No. 338.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 13, 1882, 3 P.M.

ALTHOUGH it will not be advisable to relax our vigilance, I am in hopes that Turks have no intention of allowing their troops to leave Suda Bay until the questions now under discussion between Her Majesty's Government and the Porte have been satisfactorily settled. Mr. Blunt reports that orders have been sent to Scutari to stop the military preparations set on foot there.
(Sent to Admiral.)

No. 358.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 13.)

(No. 768. Confidential. Ext. 338.)
My Lord,

Therapia, August 13, 1882.

ALTHOUGH I do not consider that it will be advisable to relax our vigilance, I am in hopes that the Ottoman Government have no intention of allowing their troops to leave Suda Bay until the questions now under discussion between Her Majesty's Government and the Sublime Porte have been satisfactorily settled.

Her Majesty's Consul-General at Salonica reports that orders have been sent to Scutari to stop the military preparations set on foot there.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 359.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 13, 8:30 P.M.)

(No. 339.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 13, 1882, 3 P.M.

THE Council at Yildiz, having sat up all night, separated without having arrived at a decision about Proclamation. As it seems probable Turkey will not try to force a landing, perhaps the delay is not very much to be regretted; but I will press forward the Proclamation.

The Prime Minister said that he did not think the alterations suggested by Her Majesty's Government would be objected to by the Sultan.

No. 360.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 13.)

(No. 769. Confidential. Ext. 339.)
My Lord,

Therapia, August 13, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 763, Confidential, of the 11th instant, I have the honour to state that the Council, having set up all night, separated without having arrived at a decision with regard to the Proclamation.

As it seems probable that the Turks will not try to force a landing, perhaps the delay is not very much to be regretted, but I will press forward the Proclamation.

The Prime Minister informed me that he did not think that the Sultan would object to the alterations in it suggested by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 361.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

(No. 699.)
My Lord,

Constantinople, August 3, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship an official communication that has appeared in the Constantinople papers in consequence of my remonstrances on the subject of the tone of the public press here with regard to the affairs of Egypt as reported in my despatch No. 667 of the 29th ultimo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 361.

Extract from the "Stamboul" of August 2, 1882.

COMMUNICATION OFFICIELLE.—Le "Terdjumanî Hakikat," dans un de ses derniers numéros, a publié quelques articles inconvenants et a donné à Son Altesse le Khédive, un des grands dignitaires de l'Empire, un titre inusité.

Aussi, la Direction de la Presse donne un premier avertissement à ce journal.

D'autre part, quelques journaux publient sur les affaires d'Égypte des articles et des idées peu conformes au véritable état des choses et aux intérêts réels du Gouvernement Impérial.

Ces publications ne font que rendre difficile la position du Gouvernement Impérial vis-à-vis des Puissances.

Afin de sauvegarder l'intérêt général, la Direction de la Presse prévient les gérants et les rédacteurs des journaux qui publient des articles et des opinions du genre susmentionné qu'ils seront passibles des peines sévères édictées par la loi.

No. 362.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

(No. 702.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 4, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a statement published by the "Stamboul" of the securities offered by the Ottoman Government for the loan contracted to meet the expenses of the dispatch of troops to Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 362.

Extract from the "Stamboul" of August 3, 1882.

L'EMPRUNT DE 120,000 LIVRES.—Durant la négociation de cet emprunt dont nous avons annoncé, hier, la conclusion, la Porte avait offert deux garanties de son remboursement, à savoir :

1. En se référant à la décision de la Conférence aux termes de laquelle les frais de l'expédition Turque en Égypte devraient être à la charge de ce pays, elle offrait aux contractants une délégation sur le Gouvernement du Khédive.

2. Comme garantie complémentaire elle offrait le reliquat de la somme encaissée par la banque pour le compte de l'indemnité de guerre Russe et que le Gouvernement de l'Empereur n'a pas voulu toucher cette année eu égard à la situation financière de la Turquie.

Les contractants de l'emprunt ont décliné le "havalé" sur l'Égypte et n'ont accepté, ainsi que nous l'avons déjà dit, que la seule garantie du reliquat.

Le total de la somme de l'indemnité de guerre encaissée par la banque pour le compte du Gouvernement Russe, était de 450,000 livres environ, dont 250,000 avaient été déjà employées comme garantie d'une récente avance de 250,000 livres (dont 50,000 livres de compensation) ; le solde disponible pour l'opération dont nous parlons est donc de 200,000 livres environ.

L'emprunt d'avant-hier a été conclu par la Banque Ottomane, mais cet établissement accordera probablement des participations à la Société Générale, à la maison Zarifi et à quelque autre maison de banque de Galata.

Cet emprunt, du reste, ne sera pas le seul. La somme totale que le Gouvernement peut emprunter se montera à £ T. 350,000.

No. 363.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

(No. 708.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 4, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copies of despatches which I have received from Her Majesty's Consuls at Trebizond and Jeddah with reference to the events in Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 363.

Consul A. Biliotti to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord,

Trebizond, July 20, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, on the receipt of the telegrams of the 13th and 16th instant relative to the events in Egypt, I made acquainted of their contents the Governor-General (who had received no information whatever from his Government), as well as my colleagues.

I beg leave to point out to your Lordship that, somehow or other, the Turks in this part of Anatolia have gradually become imbued with the idea that, with the exception of Russia, whose immediate vicinity is a constant and direct threat to their country, no European Power would ever resort to measures of coercion against it.

Under these circumstances the late action of France on the northern coast of Africa took them by surprise, but the natives of the Black Sea being not in commercial or other relations with Tunis, the impression produced was relatively slight.

But as they stand in a quite different position towards Egypt, the Mussulmans here were deeply affected by the late events in that country, and they resent great irritation at the present moment.

They state that they cannot witness with equanimity the dismemberment of their country, and a few fanatical amongst them have even gone so far as to say that they would retaliate against Christians here, if the English were to take possession of Egypt.

However, I am under the impression that no danger is to be apprehended for native Christians, nor even for Europeans, but that the action of the British fleet in Alexandria, and any other measures of coercion which may follow, will shortly produce a very salutary impression, not only so far as British influence is concerned, but also for the security of Christians in general in this part of Anatolia.

A zaptieh who, in an altercation with a Greek, said that he would take his revenge in a few days, when all the "Giaours" would be murdered, was immediately imprisoned.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALFRED BILIOTTI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 363.

Captain Moncrieff to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord,

Suakin, July 10, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I shall return to Jeddah on the 14th or 15th instant, and that I have been detained here by the alarm which recent events in Lower Egypt excited amongst the Europeans here. Having given them some advice—they are chiefly excitable Greeks—on the 1st instant, I received a petition from them which caused me to delay my departure until now, when I feel that my presence is more required in Jeddah.

I have never, however, seen much cause for the alarm of the Europeans here. The natives care little for what excites Cairo and Alexandria, and unless things become very desperate there and a really fanatical outbreak takes place, Suakin will remain quiet. The soldiers have a bad spirit among them however.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. MONCRIEFF.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

(No. 733.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 7, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a despatch I have received from Mr. Consul-General Fawcett, inclosing a Report he has received from Mr. Vice-Consul Odoni, on the subject of the ill-feeling of the Mussulman population at Gallipoli.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 364.

Consul-General Fawcett to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 1, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, copy of a despatch from the British Vice-Consul at Gallipoli, reporting the ill-feeling which exists amongst the Mussulman population against the Europeans in consequence of the events which had lately taken place in Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. FAWCETT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 364.

Vice-Consul Odoni to Consul-General Fawcett.

Monsieur,

Gallipoli, le 28 Juillet, 1882.

JE dois vous informer que je constate, chaque jour de plus en plus, que les événements qui ont eu lieu à Alexandrie ont produit une très mauvaise impression sur la majeure partie de la population Musulmane de Gallipoli et de ses environs.

Quelques Softas en tirent profit pour envenimer la haine toujours latente chez les Turcs fanatiques contre les Rayas et les Européens.

Pendant la nuit, les Softas font des discours dans les cafés hantés seulement par les Turcs, qu'ils revêtent d'un caractère religieux tout en insinuant qu'il est du devoir de tout bon croyant de prêter main-forte à ses coreligionnaires lorsque l'occasion se présente. Ils attribuent aux Anglais les faits qui se sont produits à Alexandrie et considèrent comme des martyrs les soldats Égyptiens qui ont trouvé la mort en défendant cette ville. L'autorité paraît ne pas vouloir faire attention à ces discours.

Hier, à la suite d'une discussion qui a eu lieu entre deux Grecs et plusieurs Turcs pour une cruche d'eau que l'un de ces Grecs prenait à une fontaine à proximité d'une Mosquée, l'un des Turcs s'est écrié en s'adressant aux Grecs :—

“ Vous pourriez bien être la cause d'événements comme ceux qui ont eu lieu à Alexandrie.”

Je ne crois pas que des faits déplorables puissent se produire ici, mais toutes ces petites choses tendent à prouver l'esprit de la majeure partie de la population Turque dans les circonstances actuelles.

Le Gouverneur actuel, Nouri Effendi, ainsi que le Colonel Hassan Bey (du 14^{me} Régiment d'Infanterie du 2^{me} Corps d'Armée, beau-frère de feu Hussein Avni Pacha), actuel Commandant de Place, sont aussi de l'avis que ce n'est qu'aux Anglais qu'on doit attribuer les faits qui ont eu lieu à Alexandrie.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) AMIL. ODONI.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

(No. 743.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 8, 1882.

HAVING already informed your Lordship by telegram of the recent proceedings of the Conference, as well as of the various steps which I have taken to induce the Porte to agree to issue the Proclamation denouncing Arabi as a rebel and to enter into a Military Convention with us, it is scarcely necessary for me to trouble your Lordship with any fuller exposition of them by post. It will be sufficient to say that at last the Turkish Government is showing a disposition to yield upon all the points in dispute.

Yesterday, at the Conference, the Turkish Plenipotentiaries signed a declaration categorically accepting all the terms and conditions contained in the identic note of the Powers of the 15th July.

With reference to this transaction, it is important to observe that, inasmuch as the undertaking on the part of the Turkish Government to dispatch its troops to Egypt has been given subsequent to the communications I made to the Conference on behalf of the British Government on the 2nd August, in accordance with your Lordship's telegrams Nos. 444 of the 27th and 455 and 460 of the 29th ultimo, in which our intention to undertake the restoration of order in Egypt and to accept the co-operation of Turkey was signified, and as no dissent has been expressed on the part of any of the Powers or by Turkey in reference to these declarations, it is evident that our proceedings have acquired the acquiescence of all concerned.

I have also the satisfaction of informing your Lordship that the Foreign Minister assured me yesterday that the Proclamation I had suggested had been actually drawn up, and that a translation of it would be placed in my hands to-day. Saïd Pasha further intimated that his Government would be quite prepared to enter into a Military Convention with us, and he also gave me a most positive assurance that no Turkish troops would be disembarked in any part of Egypt until after a perfect understanding had been arrived at with Her Majesty's Government in regard to all the foregoing points.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 366.

Vice-Consul Blakeney to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

Prevesa, August 5, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of my Confidential despatch of to-day to the Earl of Dufferin, reporting the impression which British policy in Egypt has produced in Epirus.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. A. BLAKENEY.

Inclosure in No. 366.

Vice-Consul Blakeney to the Earl of Dufferin.

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

Prevesa, August 5, 1882.

AS your Excellency would perhaps wish to know what impression British policy in Egypt has produced in Epirus, I have the honour to report that up to the time when the news reached us of the destruction of the forts at Alexandria by the British fleet, Mussulmans seemed to be thoroughly persuaded that British menaces were empty words, and England was consequently held up to ridicule; but the above news had no sooner reached us than a sudden and complete change took place in their mode of thinking, and, instead of continuing to scoff at England, they appear to be very angry with their Government because they pushed matters to extremes.

As regards the Christians, who are always pleased to hear of anything detrimental to the Turkish Empire, whether it be in Europe, Asia, or Africa, are quite delighted

with the turn affairs have taken, especially as the part taken by England in the settlement of the Turko-Greek Frontier question is still fresh in their minds.

Even the Jews, who always avoid expressing an opinion on politics, hearing of the massacre of their co-religionists at Cairo, are heard to say, "What is England up to; why does not she go to save the people?" So that England's firm and energetic policy in Egypt appears to be producing very satisfactory results in this part of the Ottoman Empire.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. A. BLAKENEY.

No. 367.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

E
(No. 312. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Berlin, August 8, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 311, of this date, I think it right to state that when Count Hatzfeldt spoke to me about the Italian project for the protection of the Suez Canal, he said that as far as Germany was concerned, and he believed he might say the same of other Powers, there had never been the slightest idea of attaching to that project other than a temporary character.

His Excellency added that, until his attention was called to the possibility of a different interpretation being placed on the Italian proposal, it had never occurred to him to suppose that there could be any intention of suggesting a permanent joint protectorate of the Powers for the Canal. Such a plan at the present stage of the Egyptian question would have been outside the programme laid down for the discussion of the Conference.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 368.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

(No. 320. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Berlin, August 12, 1882.

WITH regard to the article in the "Nord-Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung," a translation of which I had the honour to forward to your Lordship in my despatch No. 313 of the 9th instant, I have no doubt that it faithfully represents the views of the German Government in the matter of projects having reference to Egypt which may be submitted by any of the Powers less interested than England and France.

The language of the article corresponds exactly with what Count Hatzfeldt had said to me on the subject the day before the article appeared, and the French Ambassador, who told me he had read it with considerable satisfaction, assured me that the views expressed in it completely tallied with the language lately held by Count Hatzfeldt when discussing with him the Italian proposal for the protection of the Suez Canal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 369.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

E
(No. 321. Very Confidential.)
My Lord,

Berlin, August 12, 1882.

SINCE my No. 317 of the 10th instant was written, I have had an opportunity of reading the despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, No. 853, Secret, of the 1st instant, which was included in the Confidential print that came by the last messenger, and alludes to the irritation caused by Prince Bismarck's telegram of the 27th ultimo.

I presume this telegram is the one in which the idea of placing the Suez Canal under the protectorate of the six Powers is hinted at.

I can only repeat what I have ventured to say on this subject in my despatch No. 308 of the 15th instant, viz., that it appears to me far more probable that the suggestion of the joint protectorate should have been the result of pressure on the part of those Powers who have always been jealous of the preponderating influence of England and France in Egypt, than that it should have originated with Prince Bismarck as a measure for thwarting that influence, or as a means of preventing England and France from any longer acting together in Egypt.

In addition to what Count Hatzfeldt said privately to me a day or two ago, as reported in my above-mentioned despatch, respecting the expediency of not closing the Conference too abruptly, out of courtesy to France, I should mention that his Excellency stated confidentially, but with great frankness, that it would never do for France to continue her present policy of inaction as regards Egypt, or to retire in any way from her position as one of the Great Powers.

In talking over matters with Baron de Courcel, Count Hatzfeldt told me he had always employed this language whenever the French Ambassador had spoken of the probability that France would not take any further active part in the solution of the Egyptian difficulty.

Nothing I had said led up to these remarks on the part of Count Hatzfeldt, and I believe they were made with perfect sincerity.

I have been at Berlin since 1879, during which year events led to the accession of Tewfik Pasha as Khedive, and I do not remember a single instance in which, when I have had occasion to discuss Egyptian affairs either with Count Hatzfeldt or any of his predecessors at the Foreign Office, there has been any indication of a desire to ignore the fact of English and French interests in Egypt being greatly superior to those of other Powers. On the contrary, I have always noticed a readiness to acknowledge the superiority of those interests, and the right of the two Powers to take the initiative.

Whenever I have had the opportunity of conversing with Baron de Courcel about Egypt, I have invariably called his Excellency's attention to what I thought was the feeling of Germany towards England and France, and the Ambassador has been ready to admit that neither Prince Bismarck nor Count Hatzfeldt have ever employed different language with him.

But what the French Ambassador fears is very much what is indicated in the latter part of Lord Lyons' despatch, that when the moment arrives for treating the political side of the Egyptian question, if France and England are not united as to the policy to be pursued, there would be the risk of either the one or the other Power finding itself in opposition to the remaining Powers, and therefore isolated, or else compelled, in order to avoid such a result, to agree to whatever the Powers united might decide as regards their share of regulating the future of Egypt.

Baron de Courcel, who is strongly in favour of the joint action of England and France in Egypt, has always disliked the notion of Turkish intervention, but, as he mentioned to me a day or two ago, it would be much less distasteful to France if, as seemed now probable, it took place under the guidance of England.

When speaking to his Excellency on this subject, I have endeavoured to prove to him that any very decided opposition to Turkish intervention would have been far more likely than anything else to irritate Germany, and give her an excuse for aiding and abetting whatever designs those Powers who are jealous of the leading position held by England and France in Egypt might wish to put into execution.

The two Powers were far more likely, I thought, to find Germany favourably disposed towards them in any ultimate negotiations if, as I had every reason to suppose was the case, they were, on their side, ready to acknowledge the rights of the Sultan in Egypt within the limits of existing Treaties and Firmans.

I fancy Baron de Courcel intends to go to Paris on leave in about ten days, and I have no doubt will take an early opportunity of calling upon Lord Lyons, for whom he entertains the greatest friendship and esteem. His Excellency will be able to give Her Majesty's Ambassador much interesting information as regards the probable policy of Germany in the East.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

E
(No. 408. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Vienna, August 10, 1882.

I INFORMED your Lordship last week of the wish of Count Kálnoky, that the Conference of Constantinople should be brought to a close, provided that it could be done without creating the alarm that would be caused if its dissolution were supposed to have been brought about by a disagreement among the Powers, but the ultimate acceptance by the Porte of the invitation, and the conditions which it was the first duty of the Conference to concert seems to him to make the moment favourable for the suspension of further sittings.

He is, however, very anxious that the Conference should, if possible, before separating, secure the still further credit, in the eyes of the public, of having made an arrangement for the security of the Suez Canal, although I am convinced that, as far as he himself is concerned, he would have been ready to leave it to Her Majesty's Government to provide for.

Your Lordship is aware that Count Kálnoky never expected any great benefit from the Conference, which he consented to join rather than reject a proposal made by England and France, and in his private conversations he frequently remarked that Congresses and Conferences were less adapted for meeting an acute emergency, such as that in which we found ourselves, than for laying down the principles to be carried out after the crisis was past.

I have throughout been unable to detect any appearance of an unfavourable disposition on his part towards Her Majesty's Government; for while he certainly thought that the Sultan's position in regard to Egypt had been too long disregarded in a manner that he did not approve, he was ready to attribute it to the influence of the French Government, and to give the Government of Her Majesty entire credit for being animated solely by a wish to see order restored in Egypt without jealousy either of Turkey or the other Powers.

The mischievous articles in the "Times," intimating that a British protectorate must be set up in Egypt, were received by Count Kálnoky for what they were worth, and the allusion of Lord Dufferin in the Conference three days ago to the part the Powers would have ultimately to take in the reorganization of the country, was satisfactory to him rather on account of the re-assuring effect that it would have on the public mind than for the removal of any suspicion lurking in his own.

The tone of the public press on the other hand has been one of extreme hostility; but it is deserving of little attention, being dictated solely by a persistent personal animosity against Mr. Gladstone, whose policy it attacks, as a matter of course, upon all occasions, and without the slightest discrimination.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 371.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

(No. 409.)
My Lord,

Vienna, August 11, 1882.

I HAVE communicated to Count Kálnoky Mr. Cartwright's telegram deprecating the present return to Egypt of the European refugees.

His Excellency said that he had already caused a notification to be published at Trieste, warning persons desiring to return to Alexandria of the want of water to which they would be exposed.

The Imperial Consul at Salonica had informed him that a number of Austro-Hungarian refugees there were desirous of returning, and had asked whether he should send them back, but he had been instructed not to do so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

(No. 888.)
My Lord,

Paris, August 12, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of a letter and inclosure which I received the evening before last from M. Charles de Lesseps, the Vice-President of the Administrative Council of the Suez Canal Company.

The object of the letter is to communicate a Resolution of the Council of Administration, adopting the protests made by M. Ferdinand de Lesseps in Egypt against the proceedings of Her Majesty's officers, as constituting a violation of the neutral character which he attributes to the Canal.

A similar letter has, I understand, been addressed by M. Charles de Lesseps to the Representatives at Paris of other Powers.

The Resolution, and, indeed, a copy of the letter, have, I understand, been already transmitted to your Lordship by the British Directors of the Suez Canal Company.

A copy of the previous letter, dated the 9th ultimo, to which reference is made, was inclosed in my despatch No. 701 to your Lordship of the 10th ultimo.

I do not purpose making any answer to the present letter without instructions from your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 372.

M. C. de Lesseps to Viscount Lyons.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Paris, le 7 Août, 1882.

PAR une lettre en date du 8 Juillet dernier, M. Ferdinand de Lesseps a eu l'honneur de vous communiquer des instructions qu'il venait d'adresser, par le télégraphe, à l'Agent Supérieur de notre Compagnie en Égypte relativement à la neutralité du Canal Maritime de Suez.

Il vous exprimait en même temps la pensée que vous jugeriez sans doute à propos de signaler à votre Gouvernement l'utilité, pour chaque Puissance maritime ayant intérêt au libre transit du Canal de Suez, d'envoyer un bâtiment de guerre en observation à Port-Saïd.

Par une dépêche datée d'Ismaïlia, le 4 Août, M. Ferdinand de Lesseps a fait connaître à notre Conseil d'Administration que l'Amiral Anglais lui avait écrit sa décision de prendre, malgré ses protestations, les mesures nécessaires pour occuper le Canal, s'appuyant sur une lettre du Khédive qui lui donne tout pouvoir pour agir.

Le Conseil, réuni extraordinairement, a pris une résolution que j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre en copie, conformément à l'invitation qui m'en est télégraphiquement transmise d'Ismaïlia par M. Ferdinand de Lesseps.

Dans ce même télégramme M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, en nous signalant les démonstrations guerrières des Commandants Anglais dans le Lac Timsah, provoquant les indigènes et pouvant entraîner des actes de guerre dans la zone neutre du Canal, ajoute que la protection navale collective des Puissances sans débarquement serait une solution désirable, susceptible d'empêcher une violation imminente d'une neutralité garantie par le Sultan à la marine universelle.

Le Vice-Président du Conseil d'Administration,
Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) CH. A. DE LESSEPS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 372.

Conseil d'Administration, Séance Extraordinaire du 5 Août, 1882.

Resolution.

LE Conseil, réuni extraordinairement aujourd'hui, a pris la résolution suivante :—
"Le Khédive, dont le pouvoir n'a pas été jugé suffisant pour réunir, sans l'autorisation du Sultan, la Méditerranée à la Mer Rouge, ne peut avoir une autorité plus étendue lorsqu'il s'agit de porter atteinte aux stipulations formelles du texte de la Concession.

"L'accord même des auteurs de la Concession ne pourrait modifier l'engagement solennel qu'ils ont contracté envers le monde entier en déclarant la neutralité du Canal de Suez.

"Le maintien de cette neutralité jusqu'ici respectée, et qui exclut tout acte de guerre dans le Canal, constitue pour la Compagnie une obligation qui est la base de sa Concession.

"Notre Compagnie Égyptienne ne saurait se prêter à une violation d'une neutralité qui est la garantie du commerce de toutes les nations.

"Aucun Gouvernement n'amènerait le Conseil d'Administration à accepter la responsabilité d'actes préjudiciables à toutes les nationalités intéressées à la liberté permanente de la navigation dans le Canal de Suez.

"Notre Société, purement commerciale, ne peut qu'opposer la proclamation de ces principes à d'injustifiables prétentions politiques.

"Le Conseil s'associe donc hautement, au nom du droit menacé, aux protestations de son Président.

"Il exprime sa gratitude à M. Ferdinand de Lesseps et à tout le personnel de la Compagnie."

No. 373.

M. Serpa to M. de Sampayo.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by M. de Sampayo, August 14.)

(Télégraphique.)

LE Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Très Fidèle est prêt à contribuer, dans les limites de ses ressources, à la sûreté du Canal de Suez, dans le cas où le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, d'accord avec les Puissances de l'Europe, trouve le concours du Gouvernement Portugais utile ou nécessaire.

No. 374.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14, 8 A.M.)

(No. 341.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 13, 1882, 4 P.M.

I HAD a long conversation yesterday with Nelidoff. He appears to have come to Constantinople with considerable contempt for the way in which the Representatives of the four Powers have been conducting the affairs [? of the Conference], and with an idea that he is going to inaugurate a new era. On his observing that the labours of the Conference had been absolutely sterile, I replied that nothing had so much surprised me as the impassive attitude maintained by Russia throughout our deliberations; her Representative seemed never to have been furnished with any definite instructions, and had not once taken the initiative in making a suggestion. I was therefore glad to think that his Excellency was about to put a little more colour and vivacity into her rôle.

I then observed that most of the Continental Governments seemed to be of opinion that the present languid existence of the Conference should be altogether suspended. He did not acquiesce in this idea so implicitly as Sir E. Thornton's telegram No. 41 of the 10th instant led me to suppose would be the case. In any event, he said, it would be desirable for the Conference, before separating, to legitimize the position of England, whose action appeared to him to be somewhat irregular. Perhaps the best way to do this might be to submit the Military Convention which he heard was being negotiated to the jurisdiction of the Conference.

I replied that our position in Egypt did not require any legalization. It had been unanimously agreed at the commencement of our sittings that any Power might take any action that might be necessitated by an unexpected emergency. It had been universally recognized that the menace to our fleet occasioned by the arming of the forts of Alexandria, in spite of our warnings and remonstrances, had constituted such a contingency. The subsequent conflagration of the town and the massacre of Europeans in various parts of Egypt had imposed on [the] nearest at hand the duties we had undertaken in presence of the hesitation and dilatory attitude of the Ottoman Government. Accordingly, our troops were dispatched to Egypt, and the Conference acknowledged the imperative nature of the circumstances which had driven us into direct and immediate action.

Moreover, I had made explicit declarations to the Conference as to our intention of undertaking the restoration of order, and no Power had even hinted a word of dissatisfaction. In fact, it was well known that, though the Conference did not desire to give us a mandate, it still less desired to impose a veto. We were very sensible of the confidence thus displayed by Europe in the single-mindedness of our intentions, and were therefore perfectly satisfied with our position.

With regard to the Military Convention, that was a matter between ourselves and Turkey. We entered into it with the object of insuring the safety of our troops and the success of the campaign, and no Government in the world would consent to allow others to determine what was necessary or desirable for the attainment of such ends. The spirit of the [Porte] had been too ambiguous towards Arabi Pasha to allow us to permit a large Turkish force to hang upon our flank while we were engaged with the enemy in front, without precautions being taken that they should not have an opportunity of turning us.

I, therefore, must tell him frankly that if a proposition was formulated in the Conference in the sense he had indicated, I should, without even waiting for instructions, refuse even to discuss it, as being perfectly inadmissible. I have since ascertained that all my colleagues take the same view of the matter as I do, and more than one of them has expressed to me their thanks for having nipped in the bud, as they trusted would prove the case, M. Nelidoff's idea, which would very much embarrass them were it propounded. I hope your Lordship will not think I have taken too much upon myself in this matter.

No. 375.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 14.)

(No. 771. Confidential. Ext. 341.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 13, 1882.

M. DE NELIDOW, the new Russian Minister, called upon me yesterday.

He seems to have come to Constantinople with considerable contempt for the manner in which the Representatives of the four Powers have been conducting the affairs of that confederacy, and with the idea that he is going to inaugurate a new era. On his observing that the labours of the Conference had been absolutely sterile, I remarked that nothing had so much surprised me as the impassive attitude maintained by Russia throughout our deliberations. Her Representative seems never to have been furnished with definite instructions, and had not once taken the initiative in making a suggestion. I was glad to think that his Excellency was about to put a little more colour and vivacity into her rôle.

I then observed that most of the continental Governments seemed to be of opinion that the present languid existence of the Conference should be altogether suspended. He did not acquiesce in this idea so implicitly as Sir E. Thornton's telegram of the 10th instant, repeated to me in your Lordship's telegram No. 512 of the 12th instant, led me to suppose would be the case. In any event, he said, it would be desirable for the Conference before separating to legitimize the position of England, whose action appeared to him to be somewhat irregular. Perhaps the best way to do this might be to submit the Military Convention, which he heard was being negotiated, to the jurisdiction of the Conference.

I replied that our position in Egypt did not require any legalization. It had been unanimously agreed at the commencement of our sittings that any Power might take any action that might be necessitated by an unexpected emergency. It had been universally recognized that the menace to our fleet occasioned by the arming of the forts of Alexandria, in spite of our warnings and remonstrances, had constituted such a contingency. The subsequent conflagration of the town and the massacre of Europeans in various parts of Egypt had imposed on the Power nearest at hand the duties which we had undertaken, especially in presence of the hesitations and dilatory attitude of the Ottoman Government.

Accordingly our troops were dispatched to Egypt, and the Conference had acknowledged the imperative nature of the circumstances which had driven us into direct and immediate action. Moreover, I had made explicit declarations to the Conference as to our intention of undertaking the restoration of order, and no Power had even hinted a word of dissatisfaction. In fact, it was well known that though the Conference did not desire to give us a mandate, it still less desired to impose a

veto. We were very sensible of the confidence thus displayed by Europe in the single-mindedness of our intentions, and were therefore perfectly satisfied with our position. With regard to the Military Convention, that was a matter between ourselves and Turkey. We entered into it with the object of ensuring the safety of our troops and the success of the campaign, and no Government in the world would consent to allow others to determine what was necessary or desirable for the attainment of such ends. The spirit of the Ottoman Government had been too ambiguous towards Arabi Pasha to allow us to permit a large Turkish force to hang upon our flank while we were engaged with the enemy in front, without precautions being taken that they should not have an opportunity of turning against us. I therefore must tell him frankly that if a proposition was formulated in the Conference in the sense he had indicated, I should, without even waiting for instructions, refuse to discuss it, as being perfectly inadmissible.

I have since ascertained that all my colleagues take the same view of the matter as I do, and more than one of them have expressed to me their thanks for having nipped in the bud, as they trusted would prove the case, M. Nelidow's idea, which would very much embarrass them were it propounded.

I hope your Lordship will not think I have taken too much upon myself in this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 376.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14, 12:30 P.M.)

(No. 394.)
(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 13, 1882, 7 P.M.

CHÉRIF PASHA has telegraphed to Riaz, at Hotel de Bergues, Geneva, to ask him to join his Cabinet as Minister of the Interior.

No. 377.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 14.)

(No. 532. Ext. 394.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 13, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report that Riaz Pasha, who is living at the Hotel de Bergues, Geneva, has been invited by Chérif Pasha to accept the post of Minister of the Interior in the new Cabinet.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 378.

Consul Eyres to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14, 1:30 P.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Scutari, August 13, 1882.

FOLLOWING sent to Constantinople:—

"To-day a telegram from the Porte has arrested the departure of the troops till further notice.

"(Sent home.)"

No. 379.

Mr. Morier to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14, 2:30 P.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Ildefonso, August 14, 1882, 11:15 A.M.

I SHOULD be glad to learn what reply your Lordship has given to the Spanish Circular of the 24th ultimo, as contradictory versions are given here, and I do not know what language to hold when questions are addressed to me on the subject.

No. 380.

Consul Sandwith to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14, 4 P.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Canea, Crete, August 14, 1882, 11 A.M.

NO arrivals since my telegram of 10th instant. The two transports were "Medjidie," bringing five battalions of 800 men each. The third transport was the "Medaritefik," with 300 Circassian cavalry and 600 infantry. The fourth transport was "Mevrudinusret," with four batteries of Krupp guns of 9 centim., with horses and gunners complete. Three battalions are expected from Scutari.

No. 381.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Admiralty, August 14, 1882.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the perusal of Earl Granville, copy of a letter from Captain E. H. Seymour, of Her Majesty's ship "Iris," dated at Port Saïd, the 26th ultimo, received through the Commander-in-chief on the Mediterranean Station, in which he denies the statement made by the Suez Canal Company, to the effect that he wished to patrol the Canal with torpedo-boats.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 381.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to the Senior Officer of Her Majesty's Ships and Vessels, Port Saïd.

Sir,

Admiralty, July 14, 1882.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you that on the 11th instant a telegram was sent to you in cypher stating that the Suez Canal authorities allege that you requested permission to patrol the Canal with torpedo-boats, and desiring you to report if the allegation is true, observing that no authority has been given for such interference.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 381.

Captain Seymour to Rear-Admiral Hoskins.

Sir,

"Iris," at Port Saïd, July 26, 1882.

IN reply to your note of this day's date, and Admiralty communication of the 14th July, 1882, annexed, I have the honour to state that I cannot account for the extraordinary statement of the Suez Canal Company, to the effect that "I requested permission to patrol the Canal with torpedo-boats." I was certainly never authorized to make any such application, and as certainly never made it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 382.

Earl Granville to the British Suez Canal Directors.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 14, 1882.

HER Majesty's Government are desirous to make an intimation through you to the Directors of the Suez Canal Company with regard to the military operations about to take place in Egypt.

[1410]

2 X

Her Majesty's Government desire that you should state to the Board, in courteous terms, that it has become necessary, in pursuance of the operations which are being undertaken with the authority of His Highness the Khedive, and in alliance with His Majesty the Sultan, that a British force should be landed on the shores of the Suez Canal.

You are aware that by Articles IX, X, and XI of the Convention between the Khedive and the Suez Canal Company of the 22nd February, 1866, sanctioned by the Imperial Firman of the 19th March, 1866, His Highness reserved to himself his executive rights over the Canal and its dependencies. By virtue of those rights, he has empowered the Commander of Her Majesty's naval forces at Port Saïd to occupy such points of the Isthmus of Suez as he may deem useful for the free traffic on the Canal, the protection of the towns and populations situated in the neighbourhood of it, and to suppress any force which does not recognize His Highness' authority. The Admiral is also authorized to take the necessary measures for depriving the rebels of the railway between Ismaïlia and Suez.

In pursuance of this authority, Her Majesty's forces have occupied the town of Suez, situated outside the Canal, which was threatened with destruction. They have hitherto refrained from occupying any point upon the Canal itself. Her Majesty's Government have been anxious, while taking such steps as seemed necessary for the protection of the navigation, to abstain, as far as the exigencies of the occasion would permit, from any measures calculated to interfere with the normal service of the Canal. They consider that it has now become necessary to send a force to Ismaïlia for the protection of the Canal and its neighbourhood, and with a view to the restoration of order in Egypt. The presence of the rebellious troops in large numbers in the vicinity renders it essential that the force should be a considerable one.

Her Majesty's Government do not doubt that the Suez Canal Company will readily render any assistance which may be needed to facilitate the passage of the transports up the Canal on this service, and to secure to them precedence over other vessels for the short time that will be required.

You will impress upon the Directors, although it may be superfluous to anticipate any opposition to the Khedive's authority, the serious responsibility which would attach to the Company and to any of its servants if they in any way impeded, or failed to promote as far as depended on them, the execution of the Khedive's orders.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

P.S.—A copy of this despatch will be forwarded to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, with instructions to communicate it to the French Government at the same time that you make the statement to the Directors. You should, therefore, place yourselves in communication with his Excellency on the subject.

G.

No. 383.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 15.)

(No. 27.)

My Lord,

London, August 14, 1882.

IN our despatch No. , Political, of the instant we had the honour to report to your Lordship the views held by M. de Lesseps and his Council on the subject of the neutrality of the Suez Canal; and in our despatch No. 25, Political, of the 9th instant, we endeavoured to show that those views were unsound. Even the original Concession of the 5th January, 1856, only made the Canals neutral passages for merchant-ships, no mention being made of ships of war; whilst the Convention of the 22nd February, 1866, which alone received the ratification of the Sultan, clearly reserved to the Khedive the right to make a military use of the Canal for the protection of his interests.

When M. Charles de Lesseps made the public declaration of his own and his father's views at the meeting of the Council of the Company on the 1st instant, we merely accepted them *ad referendum*; but we have the honour to suggest that we should be authorized to make a counter-statement of the views of Her Majesty's Government at the next meeting of the Council, which will take place on the 5th September; and we would further suggest that after that has been done, it would be advisable to give publicity to these views in order to counteract the effect at home and abroad produced

by M. de Lesseps' continuous and violent denunciation of what he is pleased to call the violation of the neutrality of the Canal by Her Majesty's Government.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. STOKES.

C. RIVERS WILSON.

No. 384.

Saïd Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by Musurus Pasha, August 15.)

(Télégraphique.)

Constantinople, le 14 Août, 1882.

QUELQUES journaux ont répandu le bruit qu'une effervescence existerait en Syrie.

Je n'ai pas besoin de vous dire que cette nouvelle n'est basée sur aucun fondement. Il est vrai qu'il y a eu un incident insignifiant et passager à Beyrouth à l'occasion de l'enterrement d'un Musulman qui venait d'y être assassiné et dont le corps avait été trouvé gisant sur la voie publique; mais les autorités locales sont immédiatement intervenues, et ont fait des arrestations. À l'heure qu'il est, la plus parfaite tranquillité règne dans cette ville.

À part cet incident déjà oublié, il n'y a absolument rien dans aucune partie de notre province Syrienne.

Je vous prie en conséquence de vous énoncer dans le sens qui précède et de donner le démenti voulu à ces bruits.

No. 385.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 15, 9 A.M.)

(No. 342.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 14, 1882, 11.30 P.M.

WE have agreed to send the following telegram to our respective Governments:—

"The following Protocol was signed at the close of our sixteenth sitting to-day:—

"[Here follows the Protocol.]

"At the meeting of the 14th August, the President, having re-opened the discussion with regard to the Italian proposal respecting the Suez Canal, addressed himself to the French Ambassador and asked him if he had received instructions authorizing him to adhere to the proposition. The French Ambassador replied that he was authorized to do so if all the Representatives of the Powers taking part in the Conference had given their consent to it, and asked the President to ascertain whether all the adhesions already given were maintained. All the members of the Conference having replied that they maintained the adhesion already given, the French Ambassador declared that he also assented to it, adding that France reserved her entire liberty of action with regard to the measures she might be called upon to take part in in virtue of this arrangement. The Italian Ambassador thanked the Conference, and entering upon the means of execution, made the following proposition:—

"[Here follows the proposition.]

"The commanders of the naval forces on the spot shall be charged by their respective Governments with the establishment of the rules to be adopted in order to execute the proposition that the Conference had just adopted."

"[Here ends the proposition.]

"All the members of the Conference accepted this proposition, and agreed to inform their Governments of it."

"[Here ends the Protocol.]

"The Representatives of the Powers having unanimously expressed their opinion that the moment had come to suspend the labours of the Conference, the Ottoman Delegates stated that they did not share this opinion, and reserved the right of informing us of the date of the next meeting. The day on which the Powers shall think fit to suspend our meetings, our Governments will have to give us instructions to make a formal declaration in this sense to the Conference."

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 14.)

(No. 776. Confidential. Ext. 342.)
My Lord,

Constantinople, August 14, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of the identic telegram we agreed to send to our respective Governments after the sixteenth meeting of the Egyptian Conference.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 386.

Identic Telegram sent by the Representatives of the Six Powers after the Sixteenth Meeting of the Egyptian Conference.

LE Protocole suivant a été signé à la fin de notre seizième séance aujourd'hui :—
"À la séance du 14 Août le Président ayant réouvert la discussion sur la proposition Italienne, relativement au Canal de Suez, s'est adressé à l'Ambassadeur de France et lui a demandé s'il avait reçu des instructions l'autorisant à adhérer à la proposition.

"L'Ambassadeur de France a répondu qu'il était autorisé à adhérer si tous les Représentants des Puissances participant à la Conférence avaient donné leur adhésion, et a prié le Président de constater que les adhésions déjà acquises étaient maintenues. Tous les membres de la Conférence ayant répondu qu'ils maintenaient leur adhésion antérieure, l'Ambassadeur de France a déclaré qu'il adhérerait également, en ajoutant que la France réservait son entière liberté d'appréciation quant à l'exécution des mesures auxquelles elle pouvait être appelée à prendre part en vertu de cet arrangement.

"L'Ambassadeur d'Italie a remercié la Conférence, et, abordant les moyens d'exécution, a fait la proposition suivante :—

"Les Commandants des forces navales sur les lieux seront chargés par leurs Gouvernements respectifs de fixer les règles à établir pour la mise à exécution du projet que la Conférence venait d'adopter."

"Tous les membres de la Conférence ont accepté cette proposition en s'engageant à en informer leurs Gouvernements.

"Les Représentants des Puissances, ayant exprimé l'avis unanime que le moment leur semblait venu de suspendre les travaux de la Conférence, les Délégués Ottomans n'ont pas partagé cette manière de voir et se sont réservés de nous faire connaître la date de la prochaine séance. Le jour où les Puissances croiront opportun de suspendre nos séances, nos Gouvernements auront à nous donner l'instruction formelle de faire une déclaration en ce sens à la Conférence."

No. 387.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 15, 9 A.M.)

(No. 343.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 14, 1882, 11.45 P.M.

WITH reference to my identic telegram No. 342 of this day's date, the Sultan desires to keep the Conference alive solely for the purpose of doing mischief and fomenting discord. All my colleagues feel that it would be dangerous to allow its sittings to continue.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 15.)

(No. 777. Confidential. Ext. 343.)
My Lord,

Therapia, August 14, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 776 of this day's date, inclosing copy of the identic telegram which we agreed to send to our respective Governments after the sixteenth meeting of the Egyptian Conference, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have reason to believe that the Sultan wishes to keep the Conference alive solely for the purpose of doing mischief and fomenting discord. All my colleagues feel that it would be dangerous to allow its sittings to continue.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 389.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 15, 9 A.M.)

(No. 344.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 14, 1882, 11.55 P.M.

THE Sultan, at the instigation of some of his advisers, but contrary to the opinion of the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister, compelled the latter to try and get the Conference to take cognizance of the Convention. The idea was probably put into the Sultan's head by M. Nelidoff; but on sounding some of the Representatives, Saïd Pasha discovered that such a proposition would not be listened to, and no mention of it was consequently made at our meeting.

The Russian Minister told me that the Prime Minister had consulted him on the point, and he had informed him that it would be no good trying the experiment.

No. 390.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 15.)

(No. 778. Confidential. Ext. 344.)
My Lord,

Therapia, August 14, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 771 of the 13th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Sultan, at the instigation of some of his advisers, but contrary to the opinion of the Prime Minister and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, compelled the latter to endeavour to get the Conference to take cognizance of the Convention.

The idea was probably put into His Majesty's head by M. de Nelidow; but on sounding some of the Representatives, Saïd Pasha discovered that such a proposition would not be listened to, and no mention of it was consequently made at our meeting.

M. de Nelidow told me that the Prime Minister had consulted him on the point, and that he had informed his Highness that it would be no good trying the experiment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 391.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 15, 2 P.M.)

(No. 396.)
(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 15, 1882, 11.30 A.M.

KHEDIVE has issued following Proclamations :—

"We, Khedive of Egypt, make known to civil and military authorities of Isthmus of Suez that Admiral and Commander-in-chief of forces of Her Britannic Majesty who are charged to re-establish order in Egypt are authorized to occupy all points which

they may deem useful for military operations to be undertaken against rebels; we invite said authorities to bring present order to knowledge of all inhabitants of isthmus, and especially to agents and employés of Maritime Canal. We make known further to all that any opposition to present order will constitute violation of our Khedivial wishes, and will expose offenders to most grave consequences."

Second Proclamation:—

"We, Khedive of Egypt, authorize Admiral and Commander-in-chief of naval forces of Her Britannic Majesty in Mediterranean, as also all officers acting under his orders, to take whatever measures they may deem useful to prevent importation of coal and munitions of war along whole extent of coast of Damietta and Rosetta comprised between Port Saïd and Alexandria; any infringement of present order will induce seizure of prohibited articles."

No. 392.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 525.)
(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, August 15, 1882, 2:30 P.M.
YOUR telegram No. 341 of 13th.
Her Majesty's Government entirely approve your language to M. Nelidoff.

No. 393.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 497. Ext. 525.)
My Lord, Foreign Office, August 15, 1882.
I HAVE received your Excellency's telegram No. 341 of the 13th instant, reporting a conversation you had had on the previous day with your Russian colleague with reference to the proposed submission to the Conference of the Military Convention to be concluded between England and the Porte; and I have to state to your Excellency that the language you held to M. Nelidoff on that occasion has the entire approval of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 394.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 526.)
(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, August 15, 1882, 4:25 P.M.
WITH reference to alarms at Smyrna, Beyrout, and elsewhere, can you express to your colleagues a hope that the other Powers will give the matter their special attention, as we are already so heavily charged at the Canal and in Egypt, for purposes admitted to be in the general interest?

No. 395.

Earl Granville to Consul Sandwith.

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, August 15, 1882, 4:30 P.M.
MAKE arrangements for having Turkish transports at Suda Bay watched, and their movements reported immediately here and to Admiral at Alexandria.

No. 396.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 527.)
(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, August 15, 1882, 4:40 P.M.
YOUR telegram No. 344 of yesterday.
Continue to resist the reference of the Military Convention to the Conference.

No. 397.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 499. Ext. 527.)
My Lord, Foreign Office, August 15, 1882.
I HAVE had under my consideration your Excellency's telegram No. 344 of yesterday's date, and, in reply, I have to request that you will continue to resist the reference to the Conference of the Military Convention to be concluded between Her Majesty's Government and the Porte.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 398.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 424.)
(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, August 15, 1882, 4:45 P.M.
CONFER with the Khedive and General commanding British forces with a view to the preservation, as far as possible, of Boulak Museum and the Library at Cairo.

No. 399.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 971.)
My Lord, Foreign Office, August 15, 1882.
I FORWARD, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to the British Directors of the Suez Canal Company, instructing them to communicate with their fellow-Directors on the subject of the intention of Her Majesty's Government to land a force on the banks of the Suez Canal, and of the facilities required for the purpose from the agents and officers of the Company.*
I should wish your Excellency to communicate this instruction to the French Government at the same time that the British Directors make their statement to the Board.

Your Excellency will use your discretion, after consulting with the British Directors, as to accompanying the communication with any representations or request for the use of the friendly influence of the French Government with the Company.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 400.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 276A.)
Sir, Foreign Office, August 15, 1882.
THE Italian Chargé d'Affaires called upon me this afternoon and informed me that his Government had received from that of Spain a communication representing the claims of the latter country to take part in any discussion with regard to the Suez Canal. M. Mancini had answered that the Italian Government could not give an

opinion on the matter without communicating with other Governments. He was desirous of knowing what view Her Majesty's Government took of the matter.

I said that we had returned a very similar answer to the Spanish Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 401.

Lord Tenterden to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August 15, 1882.*
I AM directed by Earl Granville to request that you will inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid has reported, under date of the 31st ultimo, that three Spanish ships of war, viz., the "Lealtad," the "Concordia," and the "Maria de Medina," have been selected to proceed to Egyptian waters to join the "Carmen" and "Zaragossa" in watching over Spanish interests.

I am, &c.
(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 402.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 15, 9 P.M.)

(No. 397.)
(Telegraphic.) *Alexandria, August 15, 1882, 5 P.M.*

MY telegram No. 396 of to-day.

The Proclamation concerning the Suez Canal has been sent to M. de Lesseps, with a letter from the Minister of the Interior reminding him of his professions of attachment to the Khedive, and urging him to assist by instructing the officials of the Canal to respect the Khedive's orders.

No. 403.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 15.)

(No. 536. Ext. 397.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, August 15, 1882.*
I HAD the honour to transmit to your Lordship by telegraph to-day the text of a Proclamation issued by the Khedive on the 14th instant, announcing that authority had been given to the Admiral and Commander-in-chief of the English forces to occupy any places on the Isthmus of Suez which might be found necessary for military operations against the rebels; I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that a copy of this Proclamation has been sent to M. de Lesseps, accompanied by a letter from the Minister of the Interior, in which he is reminded of his former expressions of attachment to the Khedive, and urged to give his assistance in the execution of the terms of the Proclamation by instructing the officials of the Canal to respect the orders of His Highness.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 404.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 15, 9 P.M.)

(No. 398.)
(Telegraphic.) *Alexandria, August 15, 1882, 5:10 P.M.*

KHEDIVE has received information that two Bedouin Sheikhs, named Sogheir and Sofair, on the [?] frontier, are likely to come, with their men, to Arabi's assistance. His Highness suggests that Porte should be moved to send orders to Tripoli to endeavour to prevent it.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 405.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 15.)

(No. 537. Ext. 398.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 15, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report that information has reached the Khedive that Zogheir and Sofair, Bedouin Chiefs on the Benghazi frontier, intend to bring their men to assist Arabi.

His Highness has suggested to me that the Sultan should be requested to prevent their coming by dispatching orders to the Vali of Tripoli.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 406.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 15, 11:15 P.M.)

(No. 101.)

(Telegraphic.)

Naples, August 15, 1882, 5:35 P.M.

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs considers the sitting of yesterday as a practical suspension of the Conference; and he is instructing Count Corti to join his colleagues, if they have similar orders, in proposing formal adjournment. Count Corti is also directed to endeavour to ascertain from Turkish Ministers the reason for their not agreeing to proposed adjournment yesterday; and, if it is with a view to bringing before the Conference the result of negotiations with England respecting Military Convention, to point out that this is a matter to be arranged between British and Turkish Governments, and one which there is no necessity, in whatever way it may be decided, to lay before the Conference. His Excellency thinks, in short, that the task of the Conference for the moment is accomplished, and the period for negotiations between the Powers and the Porte for the time closed.

No. 407.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 15.)

(No. 342. Ext. 101.)

My Lord,

Naples, August 15, 1882.

I CALLED upon M. Mancini this afternoon, when his Excellency showed me the identic telegram received from Count Corti after the sixteenth sitting of the Conference.

His Excellency proceeded to state that he considered the labours of the Conference as now practically suspended, notwithstanding the desire expressed by the Turkish Delegates for a further sitting, and that he was about to instruct Count Corti to join his colleagues, if they had similar orders, in proposing the formal adjournment of the sittings. He should also, he said, direct Count Corti to endeavour to ascertain from the Turkish Ministers the reason for their not agreeing to the proposed suspension yesterday, and if he should discover that the object the Turks had in view was to bring before the Conference the result of the negotiations with England respecting the Military Convention, he would then point out that this, in the opinion of the Italian Government, is a matter to be arranged between the British and Turkish Governments outside the Conference, and one which there is no necessity, in whatever way it may be decided, to lay before it at all.

M. Mancini stated very distinctly, and repeated it more than once, that he thought the task of the Conference for the moment was accomplished, and that the period for negotiations ("la phase de négociations") between the Powers and the Porte, or indeed between themselves, was likewise for the time closed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

Consul West to Earl Granville.—(Received August 16.)

(No. 28.)

My Lord,

Suez, August 7, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report that, on returning to my post on the 18th ultimo, I found that the whole of the British residents, with one or two exceptions, had taken refuge afloat, and were living in great discomfort on board boats, barges, and lighters in the open roadstead, for although there had been no disturbance at Suez, the withdrawal of Arabi Pasha, with all his troops, from Alexandria, led one to fear that at any moment he might be induced to adopt the same measures at Suez as those he used with such deplorable effect at Alexandria.

I need not say that my temporary removal to Alexandria on duty nowise tended to inspire the residents of Suez with confidence in the safety of their very isolated and unprotected position. It is true that Her Majesty's ship "Ready" was here, and that Commander Edwards was active and energetic in his endeavours to adopt measures calculated to inspire our small community with confidence; but previous to the bombardment of the 11th July, Her Majesty's Acting Agent and Consul-General had, with due discretion, warned all British subjects to repair to the ports, and had advised them that they would be safer afloat. Hence it was that on my return to Suez I found that nearly all the British residents had left the town.

As I had myself been ordered to go afloat at Alexandria with the Consular Staff, and finding that the Acting Consul at Suez had also hauled down his flag, and was living on board the "Ready," I did not consider it advisable to alter the state of things until I was instructed to that effect by Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General. Such instructions I did not receive, possibly because all communication with Alexandria was interrupted by Arabi Pasha, and I therefore took up my residence afloat until further orders.

I went on shore on several occasions, and found the town perfectly quiet, although the rumours which were spread by those who lent a too willing ear to the reports that came from Arabi Pasha's camp and from Cairo were certainly not calculated to restore confidence.

The Governor of Suez, Hussein Pasha Serri, was energetic, and showed the greatest desire to maintain order in the town, and to do him justice, he had succeeded.

Her Majesty's ship "Euryalus" arrived on the 29th, and on the 31st July Admiral Sir William Hewett deputed me, prior to his meeting the Governor, to ascertain from him personally whether he was a loyal subject of the Khedive or an adherent of the rebel, Arabi Pasha; to this the Governor would only reply that he was servant of the Egyptian Government, of which the Khedive was the head, that he received his orders from the Minister of Interior, that he acknowledged no divided Government, and that he had received no instructions with reference to Arabi Pasha; and this reply he persistently adhered to, notwithstanding that I said that he could not ignore the fact that His Highness the Khedive and Arabi Pasha were at variance with each other. He then asked for time to be allowed him to refer the matter, and said he required six days to get a reply; this was all I could obtain from him, and I then returned to the Roads.

On the evening of the same day (31st July) Admiral Hewett went on shore, and, on pressing the Governor for an answer to the question as to his loyalty to the Khedive or otherwise, obtained, after a short delay, a reply to the effect that he was loyal to the Khedive. This reply was given to Admiral Hewett at 10 p.m., and at midnight a locomotive with one carriage arrived, which was immediately surrounded by soldiers, who prevented all access to it, and the Governor got into the carriage, which started again immediately, and, although his destination was unknown at the time, I have been since told him that he went to Cairo.

The result was that on the following day, the 1st August, there was a regular stampede of natives, who left the place by hundreds under the impression that the English were coming, and that they would all be murdered. The regular daily train to Cairo only went as far as Geneffe, a distance of about 15 miles from Suez, and returned in order to remove as many more of the fugitives as possible, while other trains came to take them from Geneffe to Cairo, and the villages where they could find shelter.

Admiral Sir William Hewett, who, on the 2nd instant, had under his command in the Suez Roads the following ships of Her Majesty's fleet, viz., the "Euryalus," flying the flag of Rear-Admiral; the "Eclipse," the "Ruby," which had arrived in the early morning; the "Dragon," the "Mosquito," and the "Beacon," which had just come in from Ismailia, and was about to return following the steamer "Peshawar," with the

homeward India mail from Bombay; then decided to act, and I went on shore with his Secretary, Mr. Henry C. Gibson, with a Proclamation to be delivered to the Acting Governor, informing him that the place had been occupied by British forces, which occupation was effected without opposition or resistance on the part of the native soldiers. The Proclamation, of which I inclose a copy, was handed to the Acting Governor, who himself undertook to have it posted, with a translation.

The town was then occupied by the marines and blue-jackets, about 500 men in all. The few native soldiers in the place got away in the train that was about to leave Suez with more fugitives. The Governor's dwelling and public offices were guarded by marines; the Victoria Hospital, and commanding positions in the environs of Suez, were also held by the British forces. But the Acting Governor was told to continue to hold divan, and hear and settle all complaints or disputes between natives. The telegraph-office was taken charge of.

The Ottoman flag continues to fly over the Government House, and is flown jointly with the Union Jack over the principal commanding position.

The town has continued undisturbed, but the fear was that the Governor, having been removed in so unaccountable a manner, and the native women and children having left the place, that the water might be cut off, and possibly that acts of vandalism similar to those committed at Alexandria, at the instigation of Arabi Pasha and his followers, might be perpetrated at Suez by populace under the guidance of the native police, and the adherents of that rebel, of whom there are many in the place.

The natives who still remain at Suez seem perfectly reconciled to seeing the English marines on guard and patrolling the streets. They seem already to have realized the improved state of affairs, while their feelings are gratified by seeing the Ottoman colours still flying, and knowing that the Government, or at all events the Magistracy, is still in the hands of the Acting Governor, while they are clearly made to understand that their property will be untouched unless paid for, and that they themselves are unmolested by any useless or vexatious regulations.

Nevertheless, it is hardly probable that the fugitives will return, as Arabi's followers and adherents will lead them to believe that their friends who remained at Suez have been either murdered or are suffering all sorts of ignominy at the hands of the English.

On the night of the 5th instant a report reached Suez of the assemblage of Egyptian troops at Nefiche, on the Cairo Railway, near Ismailia, and as communication by rail to within 2 or 3 miles of Suez is open, it was feared that an attempt might be made to drive in our advance posts and retake Suez; no such attempt was made, however, but the mere report, considering the possibility of such a movement on the part of Arabi Pasha, renders us most anxious for the arrival of the Seaforth Highlanders and the Lancashire regiments from Aden.

No little anxiety is caused by the knowledge of the possibility of draining the fresh-water canal by cutting the embankment and letting the water run on to the desert, which is in many places lower than the level of the water in the canal, and measures have been taken to guard against the effects of such an attempt by preparing the dry or graving dock to be filled with fresh water, to assist in maintaining the supply in case of need.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. WEST.

Inclosure in No. 408.

Proclamation.

By Sir William Nathan Wrighte Hewett, Knight Commander of the Military Division of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Victoria Cross, Rear-Admiral in Her Majesty's Fleet, and Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's ships and vessels on the East India station.

To the inhabitants of Suez, being Egyptian subjects.

IT is hereby made known to you that the town of Suez has this day been occupied by British forces in the interests of His Highness the Khedive, your lawful Ruler.

You have no reason for fear if you conduct yourselves in an orderly manner, but if there is any molestation of British subjects, or of any other foreign European subjects, I shall take the necessary repressive measures.

You must let all Egyptians know that the rumours spread by the rebel Arabi Pasha,

who has been removed by His Highness the Khedive from the post of Minister of War, that the intention of the British in occupying Egypt was to murder the Mussulman population, is utterly false, and without any foundation whatever. We come here to restore order and peace to your country, and wish to be your friends.

Bring us anything you have to sell and we will buy of you, and you will soon thank me for coming to Suez.

Given on board Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Euryalus," at Suez, this 2nd day of August, A.D. 1882.

(Signed) W. HEWETT.

No. 409.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 16.)

(No. 520.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 8, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Consul Wallis, reporting the steps taken by him to warn the British subjects at Port Saïd to go on board ships, and the interview he has had with the Governor, who has recently been appointed by the Military party.

This Governor is a nephew of the present Minister of Finance, Abdul Rahman Bey Rouchdy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure in No. 409.

Consul Wallis to Mr. Cartwright.

Sir,

Port Saïd, August 1, 1882.

I AM afraid, from what I have since heard, that two letters of mine sent to you by post, acknowledging receipt of your cypher telegram of the 9th July, and reporting execution of your instructions, have miscarried. With the efficient measures taken by Captain Seymour, of Her Majesty's ship "Iris," and the notices given by this Consulate to British subjects, over 300 refugees were put on board the "London Castle." Afterwards, under instructions from Rear-Admiral Hoskins, dated the 20th July, 105 refugees were transported by their own wish to Malta on the 22nd July, on board the "Finchley," at the cost of the British Government.

On the 25th July I reported to Rear-Admiral Hoskins that I had received a Circular from the Commandant of the Military Force at Port Saïd, to the effect that the Governor-General having gone on board the day before, and the post being *de facto* vacant, he (the Commandant) had replaced the Governor-General provisionally. I also told the Admiral that if he had authority to give me instructions I would not fail to carry them out, and that if he had no authority to do so, yet considered it desirable in the interest of the public service to give me any information or advice as to the proper course to be adopted, I should receive it with the respect due to his position and responsibility. On the 27th July I received a reply from the Admiral, to the effect that he was of opinion that I ought not to recognize a Governor of Port Saïd who had not been appointed by the Government of His Highness the Khedive, but by Ministers who were in open rebellion against him. The Admiral advised me further:—

"I should, therefore, advise you not to hoist your flag when the person you have named (Ibrahim Pasha Rouchdy) arrives, but to transact your usual business as far as possible where British subjects are concerned, and await the re-establishment of the Khedive's Government. Should it be absolutely necessary to communicate with the nominee Governor, the better mode of doing so would be to apply to the Senior Naval Officer, who would request the good offices of the French Admiral."

Ibrahim Pasha Rouchdy, having arrived in Port Saïd, issued a Circular to the Consular Body announcing his appointment as Governor. The Circular was in the usual terms. Yesterday he sent me a message that he proposed to visit me this afternoon. I considered it more proper to receive him, and to let him speak for himself, than to decline his visit, which would be like condemning him upon rumour, or to write that I could only receive him if he came by the authority of the Khedive and

as the Khedive's Representative, which would have been a superfluous discourtesy if he had proved able to answer satisfactorily.

Accordingly, I received him as civilly as I knew how, told him I had heard much in his favour from many who knew him as Governor here some years ago, and said how agreeable it would be to me to maintain both official and personal relations with him. Then I said that I should have to report our interview to my Government, and that I expected that our future official relations would depend on my having his authority for the statement that he came as the officer of His Highness the Khedive to discharge, in the name of the Khedive, the duties of an office conferred on him by the Khedive.

Ibrahim Pasha Rouchdy answered that he had been sent for by the Military Council, and ordered to repair to Port Saïd, to fill the post of Governor, which was now vacant, and had formerly been filled by him. He was only allowed three hours before starting. He said he could not say that he had been appointed by the Khedive, or that the Khedive had shared in or known of his appointment; that under the circumstances, he could not feel either surprised or hurt if I felt unable to recognize him officially; but that he had acted for the best, it being impossible to leave the place without an authority to preserve order; that he had acted for the good of his country, and had come in obedience to the only authority which was in actual existence where he came from. When the present troubles should be ended, he hoped that our personal relations, begun to-day, would continue and prove lasting.

After some conversation on indifferent matters he took his leave, and I gave directions that the Consular flag should not be hoisted to-morrow, nor till further orders. I propose to write to-morrow to Ibrahim Pasha Rouchdy, that until I am instructed by my own Government as to the Khedive's wishes, I feel obliged to abstain from paying him my official visit.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN E. WALLIS.

No. 410.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 16.)

(No. 526.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 9, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a letter from Major Gordon, Acting Chief of the Police in Alexandria, with regard to the exclusion of bad characters from Alexandria. The matter has been brought to the notice of the foreign Consuls-General, whom I have requested to give their assistance with this object.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure in No. 410.

Major Gordon to Mr. Cartwright.

Sir,

Alexandria, August 8, 1882.

WITH reference to the subject of preventing return of bad characters to Alexandria, I have the honour to report that at a meeting at the Governor's office held on the 7th instant, of which the Governor Teki Pasha was President, the question was discussed, and it was considered impracticable to stop granting pratique to vessels coming into the port of Alexandria until the European Police Inspector had inspected all suspicious characters, and further, it would not be difficult for persons to conceal themselves on board ship; it was therefore decided to renew the system of examining passports of persons disembarking, to facilitate identifying such persons whom it is desirable not to allow to return to Alexandria: the head of the police submitted the names of three well-known European inspectors who are well acquainted with most of the lower classes of Europeans who formerly were in Alexandria, and who may be expected to return, and the local board have appointed these men to assist the passport authorities in detecting undesirable characters from Malta, the Greek islands, &c., and whose exclusion from Alexandria will be a public benefit.

Their names are :—

Mr. Biaginy, Chief Inspector; Mr. Manchy, Mr. Paterevley, Sub-Inspectors.

Bad characters known to the above will be exiled. Such as have the means will be sent back at their own expense, and others who have not will have their return journey paid for by Egyptian Government.

I trust that, with the help of the inspectors appointed, bad characters may be prevented returning to this town.

(Signed) R. GORDON, Major,
Acting Chief of Military Police.

No. 411.

Mr. Cartwright to Earl Granville.—(Received August 16.)

(No. 528.)

My Lord,

"Tanjore," at Alexandria, August 10, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, extracted from the "Egyptian Gazette" of the 9th instant, a Proclamation dated the 7th instant, issued by His Highness the Khedive to all Egyptians declaring Arabi Pasha a rebel, and warning them of the penalties they incur if they persist in following him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure in No 411.

Decree of His Highness the Khedive, dated 23 Ramadan, 1299 (August 7, 1882).

(Translation.)

To all Egyptians.

WE, the Khedive of Egypt, bring to the knowledge of the public that Ahmed Arabi Pasha has committed odious deeds, whose consequences to Egypt and its inhabitants are such that the Powers are not favourably disposed to Egyptians, and look upon them as an uncivilized people.

These deeds consist in the disobedience of Arabi, and his incitations to revolt, and to the intrigues which led to the first massacre in Alexandria and the latter events in Tintah and other towns, which put a stop to commerce and agriculture, and especially in his disobedience to the orders of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, which were given with a view of causing the cessation of the demonstrations which he very wrongly continued to make on the fortifications of Alexandria, which have resulted in the ruin of those forts and the death of the men in them.

After Arabi had, in less than an hour, dispersed the inhabitants of the town and pillaged with his principal companions what could be found, he set fire to it and left with his troops, proceeding to Kafr-Dawr, where, without our knowledge, he remains encamped. This necessarily led to the landing of British troops, who occupied themselves in putting out the fires, in repressing pillage, and in the maintenance of security in the town.

Further, he has prevented the emigrants from returning to their homes, and has prevented all communication between them and their town. He has completely cut off the water which supplies this town, and finally, has declared his disobedience by his own lies. He is, therefore, to be considered a rebel, and, in accordance with the Chéri and the law, he has incurred a severe punishment.

Nevertheless, he does not cease to have recourse to frauds, aided in his course of conduct by those among the soldiers and population whose ideas correspond with his impiety, and he has gone to such an extent that he employs the money collected as taxes to the Government, dismisses officials, replacing them by others, although he himself is dismissed, and has to stand his trial.

Although we have already issued several Decrees to let the truth be known, and that we have formally forbidden any relations to be held with this impious horde, we see that even now men are to be found whose hearts are hardened by God, who lean to Arabi's party and assist him in his work of corruption, as if our orders and our exhortations had not reached them, while every person who communicates with him, or aids him, is considered a rebel like himself.

In a spirit of pity for Egypt and its inhabitants as to what their future may be, we

repeat our exhortations to the public in general, and to the troops in particular, stating that, whoever follows this rebel and persists in his rebellion sins before God, and will find no excuse of avail before us, and that we shall consider him a rebel. We shall further deprive him, his children, and posterity of all rank, pay, pension, or honorary distinctions.

Let all Egyptians know that we are their lord, and let them no more commit acts of disobedience; let them also know that whoever surrenders to the rebel or his colleagues any of the rights of the Government will forfeit all claims of any description whatever which he may have against the Government.

No. 412.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 16.)

(No. 334.)

My Lord,

Naples, August 11, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a note in which, in execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's telegram No. 308 of yesterday, I have acquainted the Minister for Foreign Affairs with the substance of Mr. Cartwright's telegram No. 389 of the 8th instant relative to the return of fugitives to Alexandria.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

Inclosure in No. 412.

Sir A. Paget to M. Mancini.

Naples, August 11, 1882.

M. le Ministre,

HER Majesty's Acting Agent and Consul-General in Alexandria reports that the return of fugitives, some of them of the lowest character, is constant and increasing, and their presence in Alexandria at present is especially undesirable.

Although Mr. Cartwright has already intimated to his colleagues, for the information of their respective Governments, that, in the interests of public safety, the local authorities and the Admiral, acting on behalf of the Khedive, must exercise some discretion as to the persons allowed to re-enter the town, Earl Granville has nevertheless instructed me to bring the above information to your Excellency's knowledge.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 413.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 16.)

E

(No. 898. Secret.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 15, 1882.

WHEN I had the honour to address to your Lordship my Secret despatch No. 853 of the 1st instant, the then French Ministers were transacting business only until their successors should be appointed.

The present Ministry under M. Duclerc was formed a few days afterwards, and it has now been a week in office; but I have seen no reason to modify the views respecting French policy and French feeling with regard to Egypt which I transmitted to your Lordship in that despatch.

The declaration made by the new Ministry to the Chambers may, I suppose, be considered tantamount to an engagement that no active measures will be taken without the previous sanction of the Legislature; and the Session of the Chambers is closed. In conversation with me M. Duclerc has given general assurances of his desire to maintain the good understanding between England and France on the Egyptian question; but he has not shown any disposition to express opinions on particular points not immediately arising in the course of business. On the special matter on which I have applied to him—the proceedings of M. de Lesseps—he has manifested a desire to smooth difficulties, while shrinking from offending public opinion here by any very energetic denunciation of a man so popular in France.

In fact, however, the state of things remains much the same as when I wrote my despatch a fortnight ago.

Apprehension of Germany is combined with irritation at what is regarded as an overbearing attempt, on the part of Prince Bismarck, to keep M. de Freycinet in power.

The feeling with regard to England and the English expedition to Egypt is quite as good as could be expected, although, as I pointed out, the lapse of time must tend to revive jealousies and suspicions, and to give scope for the exercise of adverse influences.

The Conference at Constantinople is still a source of inconvenience, not to say of danger. It provides an organ for the formal expression by other Powers of dissent from the proceedings of England. A French Minister might very probably hesitate to dissociate France from any resolution come to in solemn Conference by the other four Continental Powers.

The participation of the Porte, under any conditions, in the English expedition to Egypt is still regarded by the French with aversion, and as certain to be injurious to their own position in Tunis and Algeria.

In the present conjuncture especially, so far as physical force in the Mediterranean is concerned, the French fleet is, with the exception of that of England, the most important, or rather the only, factor to be taken into account.

In sum, the feeling in France is good at this moment, and may, I trust, be maintained in that state by a careful consideration for French sentiments and French susceptibilities.

At any rate, the fact of power being in the hands of a Ministry more or less pledged to take no important step during the recess produces in a more than usual degree at this moment the relaxation of strained attention to public affairs which commonly follows the prorogation of the Legislature.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 414.

Pro-memorandum communicated to Earl Granville by M. de Hengelmüller, August 16.

THE Turkish Embassy at Vienna has requested the Austro-Hungarian Government to issue a Regulation for the purpose to keep the Turkish Consulates at Trieste and Ragusa informed of the names and nationality of any vessels carrying explosive materials to a Turkish seaport.

The Imperial and Royal Government see no objection to the practical working of such a measure of control, but before taking a definitive decision whether this concession, which might entail some molestation on commerce, is to be made to Turkey, they should like to know whether Turkey has made a similar application to Her British Majesty's Government, and what reply she has received from them.

In consequence, I should feel much obliged to Lord Tenterden if he would kindly favour me with an information on this subject.

Belgrave Square, August 15, 1882.

No. 415.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 16, 2:44 P.M.)

(No. 185.)
(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 16, 1882, 1:20 P.M.

I HAVE seen Wilson and Stokes, and have put off my departure for a day or two.

No. 416.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 16.)

(No. 905. Ext. 185.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 16, 1882.

YOUR Lordship was so good as to inform me yesterday by telegraph that Sir John Stokes and Sir Charles Rivers Wilson, two of the British Directors of the Suez Canal Company, were to arrive at Paris to-day.

I have seen Sir John Stokes and Sir Rivers Wilson this morning, and have conferred with them on the communications into which they are instructed to enter with the Board here on the subject of the intention of Her Majesty's Government to land a force on the banks of the Canal.

I have consequently (as I have already had the honour to inform your Lordship by telegraph) deferred for the present availing myself of the leave of absence from my post, which your Lordship has been so good as to grant me on account of my health.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 417.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 16, 3 P.M.)

(No. 399.)
(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 16, 1882, 9:45 A.M.

MY French colleague reproached me yesterday gently for not informing him that I had urged the Khedive to change his Ministry. He said that, although France did not participate in the military intervention, he conceived that there was no change in the united action of the two Governments in other matters, and that he hoped that we should work together as heretofore.

I answered civilly, but it is difficult for me to accept this view or to act upon it. For instance, I could hardly expect support from France in advocating the return to power of Riaz Pasha, or later on, should it become advisable, of Nubar Pasha. I think that the French should understand, while the campaign lasts, diplomatic freedom of action in such matters is a necessary concomitant of the independent military action which has been forced upon us.

No. 418.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 16.)

(No. 540. Ext. 399.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 16, 1882.

IN the course of a conversation which I had with my French colleague yesterday, M. de Vorges spoke to me somewhat reproachfully for not having informed him of the step which I had taken in urging the Khedive to change his Ministry.

He said that, although France took no part in the military intervention in Egypt, he conceived that no change had taken place in the relative positions of England and France as regarded their united action in other matters; he hoped, therefore, that we should continue, as heretofore, to work together.

I made a civil reply, but it is difficult for me to accept or to act upon the view thus advanced by M. de Vorges. For instance, in advocating the return to power of Riaz Pasha, or, later on, should it become advisable, of Nubar Pasha, I could hardly expect to be supported by the French influence. It would, I venture to suggest, be advisable that the French should understand that, during the continuance of the campaign, diplomatic freedom of action in Egypt is a necessary concomitant of the independent military intervention which has been forced upon Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 16, 3.50 P.M.)

(No. 186.)
(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 16, 1882, 1.35 P.M.

WITH reference to their letter No. 21 of the 7th, British Directors ask whether they are authorized to declare that Her Majesty's Government will hold the Canal Company harmless against any claims that may be preferred by ship-owners or others on account of delay whilst troop-ships are passing through the Canal.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 16.)

(No. 907. Ext. 186.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 16, 1882.

IN their letter to your Lordship No. 21 of the 7th instant, it was suggested by the Suez Canal Directors that it should be declared that Her Majesty's Government will hold the Canal Company harmless against any claim which may be preferred by ship-owners or others for delay occasioned by the transit of the British troop-ships.

Sir John Stokes and Sir Charles Wilson now desire to ask your Lordship whether they are authorized to make the declaration in question.

I have already forwarded the substance of this despatch to your Lordship by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 16, 4.15 P.M.)

(No. 187.)
(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 16, 1882, 2 P.M.

TO facilitate his negotiations with the Canal Company, Sir J. Stokes requests that the following question may be put to the War Office:—

"Is it intended to follow up the first advance of 6,000 men to Ismaïlia by sending through all at once the remainder of the force concentrated at a given rendezvous, as originally intended, or will ships proceed as they arrive at Port Saïd? Stokes thinks that one movement would probably derange ordinary traffic less than a succession of interruptions."

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 16.)

(No. 909. Ext. 187.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 16, 1882.

SIR JOHN STOKES is anxious that the following question should be put on his behalf to the War Office:—

"Is it intended to follow up the first advance of 6,000 men to Ismaïlia by concentrating at a given rendezvous beforehand the remainder of the force, and then sending it through all at once, as originally intended, or will ships proceed separately as they arrive at Port Saïd?"

An answer to this question would facilitate the negotiations of Sir John Stokes with the Company here. He thinks that in all probability a single large movement would derange the ordinary traffic less than the series of interruptions which would be caused by the successive passage of a few ships at a time.

I have already had the honour to transmit the substance of this despatch to your Lordship by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 316.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 16, 1882, 5.15 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 101 of yesterday.

Thank Italian Government for their friendly attitude.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 278. Ext. 316.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 16, 1882.

I HAVE to request your Excellency to thank the Italian Government for their friendly attitude in the Egyptian question, as indicated in their instructions to Count Corti, of which a summary is given in your telegraphic communication of yesterday's date.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 426.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 16, 1882, 5.20 P.M.

WITH reference to Foreign Minister's letter in Cartwright's No. 529, Eastern Telegraph Company's arrangement with Suez Canal Company was for a land line between Port Saïd and Suez.

Better obtain authority for either alternative.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 274. Ext. 426.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 16, 1882.

WITH reference to the letter of the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs, which was inclosed in Mr. Cartwright's despatch No. 529 of the 10th instant, I have to point out that the arrangement of the Eastern Telegraph Company with the Suez Canal Company was for a land line between Port Saïd and Suez. Under these circumstances, you had better obtain the authority of the Egyptian Government for either alternative.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 530.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 16, 1882, 5.25 P.M.

IF the Turks prefer that a portion of their force should be landed at Damietta or Rosetta, Her Majesty's Government have no objection.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 502. Ext. 530.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 16, 1882.

WITH reference to the negotiations which your Excellency is conducting for the conclusion of a Military Convention between this country and the Porte, I have to

state that Her Majesty's Government would have no objection to a part of the Ottoman troops being landed at Damietta or Rosetta, should the Turkish Government prefer it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 429.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Walsham.

(No. 361 A.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 16, 1882.

THE German Chargé d'Affaires called upon me yesterday and told me that his Government heard that the Commander of the German gun-boat, which had been sent to the Suez Canal, had been told by the English Admiral that there was no occasion for patrolling the Canal at this moment. He asked me whether we had any information on the subject.

I told M. Stumm that I would make inquiry at the Admiralty.

I saw him again this morning, and informed him that Her Majesty's Government had received no information from the Admiral at Port Saïd as to the advice said to have been given to the Commander of the "Möwe," but that the Admiralty had telegraphed to inquire. I added that, as far as our knowledge went, we were inclined to think that it would be desirable that the German gun-boat should patrol the Canal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 430.

Earl Granville to the British Suez Canal Directors.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 16, 1882.

I APPROVE of your making a counter-statement of the views of Her Majesty's Government, in regard to the Suez Canal, at the meeting of the Company on the 5th September, as suggested in your despatch No. 27 of the 14th instant, but I should wish to see a draft of the terms in which you propose to make the statement, which should be retrospective and should say nothing as to the future.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 431.

Sir J. Pouncefote to the Law Officers of the Crown and Dr. Deane.

(Secret.)

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 16, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, by direction of Lord Granville, the following documents:—

1. Despatch to the British Directors of the Suez Canal Company (14th August, 1882).
2. Copies of two Proclamations issued by the Khedive of Egypt.
3. Letter from the British Directors of the Suez Canal Company (7th August, 1882).
4. Letter from same (9th August, 1882).
5. Telegram from Lord Lyons (16th August, 1882).

The letter of the British Directors of the 9th August contains the text of the Articles of the Company's Concessions under which the Canal was declared open to the commerce of the world as a neutral passage from sea to sea.

You will perceive from Lord Lyons' telegram that the British Directors ask for authority to declare that Her Majesty's Government will hold the Company harmless against any claims that may be preferred by shipowners or others on account of delay while British troops are passing through the Canal.

If the above documents should be sufficient to enable you to arrive at a conclusion on the point, Lord Granville would be glad to be favoured with your opinion whether any such claim could legally be made against the Company for delay so occasioned to

merchant-vessels, or whether the passage of the British troops being a belligerent act, performed with the assent of the Khedive, constitutes a case of *vis major*, which relieves the Company from liability.

Further, if the Company should, in your opinion, be liable for such delay, whether Her Majesty's Government should limit their guarantee of indemnity to such damages as may be recovered by the claimants against the Company in the Competent Court.

I am to request that you will be good enough to report on the above questions at your earliest convenience.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 432.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 17, 2:30 P.M.)

(No. 102.)

(Telegraphic.)

Naples, August 17, 1882, 10:30 A.M.

I HAVE conveyed thanks, as instructed in your Lordship's No. 316 of yesterday.

(Confidential.)

At close of interview the day before yesterday the Minister for Foreign Affairs begged me to assure your Lordship of good wishes of Italian Government for speedy and complete success of operations in Egypt; adding that Her Majesty's Government might rely upon constant friendship of Italy, and be certain that neither now (referring, of course, to anything which might happen in event of our not allowing Turkish troops to disembark) nor later Italian Government [would] create any difficulties or obstacle.

The above was intended as a personal message to your Lordship.

No. 433.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 572.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882, 3:20 P.M.

IN view of the refusal of M. de Lesseps to allow the Convention between the Eastern Telegraph Company and the Suez Canal Company to be carried into effect, you should take such steps as you may think advisable for facilitating the laying of the cable along the Canal.

No. 434.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 990. Ext. 572.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882.

M. DE LESSEPS having refused to permit the Convention between the Suez Canal Company and the Eastern Telegraph Company to be carried out, I have to request that your Excellency will take such steps as you may deem expedient with a view to facilitate the laying of the cable along the Canal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 435.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 17, 3:45 P.M.)

(No. 345.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 17, 1882, 2:20 P.M.

I HAVE sent the following to Sir E. Malet to-day:—

"Your telegram No. 398 to Foreign Office.

"The Prime Minister has promised to telegraph to the Governors of Tripoli and Benghazi directing them to prevent the Bedouin Chiefs from joining Arabi's forces.

"(Repeated to Foreign Office.)"

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 427.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882, 3.45 P.M.

PRINCE IBRAHIM HILMY, the Khedive's brother, asks to accompany the British army to fight for the Khedive. He professes entire loyalty and readiness to leave Egypt as soon as order is restored. What answer do you think should be returned? Consult the Khedive if you think advisable.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 573.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882, 4.15 P.M.

YOUR No. 187.

Stokes' question has been referred to Wolseley. He should say nothing on the subject to his French colleagues till he hears again.

Admiral asks us to arrange for payment of Canal dues for expedition being deferred for subsequent settlement; Stokes should try to arrange accordingly when he is authorized to communicate with his colleagues, giving as reason that it would save time, and so diminish interruption of traffic.

Your No. 186 has been referred to Law Officers.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 429.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882, 4.50 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 399 of the 16th as to relations with your French colleague.

Do nothing to compromise the success of anything you think important, but make as little difference as possible in your form of acting with the French Agent.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 275. Ext. 429.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882.

I HAVE received your telegram No. 399 of the 16th instant, reporting the language held to you with reference to current events in Egypt by your French colleague, and stating the reasons for which you do not consider it advisable to communicate unreservedly with him at the present moment.

In reply, I have to state to you that while doing nothing likely to compromise the success of anything which you consider of importance, you should make as little difference as possible in your form of acting with M. de Vorges.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 575.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882, 5 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 186 of yesterday.

Law Officers think that no guarantee of any kind should be given to Suez Canal Company. To do so would be to encourage claims which could not be supported on legal grounds.

The Canal Company gives no warranty that it shall continue open, and if it be closed by a force it cannot control, is not liable to any one.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 17, 5.30 P.M.)

(No. 81.)
(Telegraphic.)

Berlin, August 17, 1882, 4.23 P.M.

COUNT HATZFELDT seems annoyed at resistance of the Porte to the proposal of the Powers to suspend action of the Conference. His Excellency thinks the Ambassadors could rightly insist on inutility of continuing sittings, and explain that at any time afterwards, if one or more Powers considered there was matter for discussion, and had obtained the consent of the remaining Powers, the Conference could again meet.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 17.)

(No. 328. Confidential. Ext. 81.)

My Lord,

Berlin, August 17, 1882.

THE resistance of the Porte to the suggestion made by the Representatives of the Powers at the last sitting of the Conference, that its labours should be suspended for the present, seems to have annoyed Count Hatzfeldt. His Excellency was unable to account for this resistance, and considered that the Delegates of the Powers would be perfectly justified in insisting on the inutility of any further sittings. They might, at the same time, explain to their Turkish colleagues that, if at a later period one or more of the Powers considered there was matter for discussion, the Conference could reassemble, provided that the suggestion met with the approval of all the Powers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 317.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882, 6.30 P.M.

AS soon as it is clear that the sittings of the Conference are suspended, you are at liberty to come home on leave.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 281. Ext. 317.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882.

I HAVE to authorize your Excellency to return home on leave as soon as it is clear that the Conference at Constantinople has suspended its sittings.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 991.)
My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882.

I HAVE to inform your Excellency that a letter has been received in this Department from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty* forwarding a copy of a communication from Captain Seymour, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Iris" at Port Saïd, in which that officer denies the truth of a statement made by the Superior Agent of the Suez Canal Company in Egypt, to the effect that he applied for permission to patrol the Canal with torpedo-boats.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

* See No. 381.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 992. Ext. 573.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882.

WITH reference to your Excellency's telegram of yesterday, I have to request you to acquaint Sir J. Stokes that his question relative to the intended advance to Ismailia has been referred to General Sir G. Wolseley, and that he should accordingly abstain from touching upon the subject in conversation with his French colleagues until he receives further instructions through your Excellency. You will at the same time be good enough to inform him that, as Admiral Sir B. Seymour has requested that Her Majesty's Government will endeavour to secure the payment of Canal dues for the expedition being deferred for subsequent settlement, he should try to make arrangements with that object as soon as he is authorized to communicate with his colleagues, pointing out, in support of the proposal, that its adoption would prevent unnecessary loss of time, and by this means would diminish the interruption of traffic.

I am in communication with the Law Officers of the Crown in regard to the inquiry put by the British Suez Canal Directors respecting possible claims that may arise on account of delay while troop-ships are passing through the Canal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 446.

Lord Tenterden to the British Suez Canal Directors.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 11, Political, of the 10th ultimo, I am directed by Earl Granville to inform you that a letter has been received in this Department from the Admiralty* forwarding a copy of a communication from Captain Seymour, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Iris" at Port Saïd, in which that officer denies the truth of the statement made by the Suez Canal Company, to the effect that he wished to patrol the Canal with torpedo-boats.

I am, &c.

(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 447.

Lord Tenterden to Sir R. Thompson.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1882.

I LAID before Earl Granville your letter of the 11th instant, stating that Mr. Secretary Childers proposed to instruct the General Commanding-in-chief the Expeditionary Force in Egypt, that the rebels under Arabi should be treated according to the recognized rules of civilized warfare, including the exchange of prisoners.

His Lordship directs me to request that you will inform Mr. Childers that he concurs in the proposed instruction to General Sir Garnet Wolseley.

I am, &c.

(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 448.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 17, 7.15 P.M.)

(No. 346.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 17, 1882, 2.30 P.M.

THE four Powers seem to have agreed on a formula which they would like to insert in the Protocol of the last meeting of the Conference before adjourning, which runs as follows: "That an amicable understanding exists between the European Cabinets that no definitive settlement of the Egyptian question is to take place except with the co-operation of all the Powers."

The foregoing is in accordance with the last paragraph in your telegram to me No. 455 of the 29th July, though perhaps a little more positive.

If I find my colleagues anxious for a declaration in the above form, am I to make it?

* See No. 381.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 17.)

(No. 789. Confidential. Ext. 346.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 17, 1882.

THE four Powers seem to have agreed to a formula which they would wish to insert into the Protocol of the final meeting of the Conference before its adjournment, which is as follows:—

"That an amicable understanding exists between the European Cabinets that no definitive settlement of the Egyptian question is to take place except with the co-operation of all the Powers."

The foregoing is in accordance with the concluding paragraph of your Lordship's telegram No. 455 of the 29th ultimo, though it is perhaps rather more positive.

I should be glad to know whether, in case I find that my colleagues are anxious for a declaration in this form, I am to make it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 450.

Mr. Morier to Earl Granville.—(Received August 18.)

E

(No. 89. Confidential.)

My Lord,

San Ildefonso, August 13, 1882.

UNTIL to-day the Marquis de la Vega de Armijo has never in his conversations with me alluded to the Egyptian question, and, as this abstention seemed intentional, I have on my part avoided the subject.

To-day his Excellency, at the public promenade, took me aside, and said he had received your Lordship's reply to his Circular of the 24th ultimo, and that, though it was favourable, it still contained "une petite pointe qui démontrait un manque de confiance."

I remarked that as his Excellency had not before spoken to me on the Egyptian question, either before my departure for England or since my return, and as I was not acquainted with the contents of the Circular of the 24th ultimo, I was not in a position to judge how far his appreciation was correct. All I knew was that Her Majesty's Government were sincerely desirous of acting in a manner agreeable to the Spanish Government, and of treating with the utmost consideration any wishes or desires that might be expressed by them in regard to European or other affairs.

When I left London, however, all that had reached Her Majesty's Government was the proposal, made a day or two before the meeting of the Constantinople Conference, that Spain should be admitted to a seat and voice in that Assembly. This communication had taken Her Majesty's Government entirely by surprise; and I could not but think that his Excellency, on reflection, would admit that no other answer but that given by your Lordship, identical, as it was, with that returned by Austria, could have been made.

It had appeared to me at the time, and it did so still more now, that in thus at the last hour putting forth a claim to be represented in the Council of the Great Powers, in reference to a great European question which had till now been kept exclusively within the competence of those Powers, Spain had underrated her own position and importance in the world. For Holland or Portugal, States of the second order, with no prospect of rising higher, to ask to be heard in regard to arrangements which they considered touched their Asiatic possessions, was a proceeding "qui ne tirait pas à conséquence;" but for a country of the magnitude of Spain, which very naturally aspired to regain that great European position which she had once occupied, to claim unexpectedly, and without any previous preparation, to be admitted to a jealously-guarded Arcopagus, was a totally different question. When a ship was freighted and on the point of sailing, an additional parcel or two could easily be put on board and entered on her manifest; but how could substantial cargo be additionally taken in without altering her trim, and necessitating a readjustment of the entire freight?

This view of the question seemed to please the Marquis de la Vega de Armijo, but led him to deny absolutely having in any way put forward any claim of the kind,

or taken the initiative in proposing the admission of Spain to the Conference. I asked him thereupon to explain to me how the matter had been brought to the notice of the Powers interested. He said the suggestion had been originally made by the Porte to the Spanish Minister at Constantinople; that it had been warmly taken up by the German Government, by whom it had been recommended to the Governments of Austria and Russia, who had both adhered to the German view. France, who had been expected to refuse, said she would do whatever Her Majesty's Government did. It was when the question had thus far ripened that it was brought to the cognizance of your Lordship by the Spanish Minister in London. And this account undoubtedly tallies with the statements made at the time by the Spanish press, to the effect that the whole scheme had broken down on the veto of Great Britain.

I should, however, observe that, although each of the above statements was severally made to me by his Excellency in the course of conversation, they were not altogether consistent with the rest of his explanations, and, when I resumed them and asked whether the several stages had followed in the sequence above indicated, he said they had not so much been sequences as simultaneous at the different centres. In reply to a distinct question, however, he twice reiterated that Austria had placed herself on exactly the same level in regard to the question as the German Government.

These statements, however, having reference to the past, are of less interest than his Excellency's very distinct declarations in regard to the present and future.

Spain, he observed, having carefully abstained from claiming a right of intervention in the Egyptian question as such had, the moment the question of the Canal had been mooted as one distinct from that of Egypt, placed on record the direct interests which, owing to her important Asiatic Colonies, she had in the arrangements to be taken in reference to the Canal itself—and this was the meaning of the Circular of the 24th August, of which he promised to send me a copy, as well as of the fact that Spain had taken no step till now.

The object of the Circular, his Excellency said, though not stated in so many words, was to prepare the way for the moment when, order being restored in Egypt, final and permanent arrangements in regard to the Canal would have to be made. When that time came he hoped that it would be admitted that, as regarded the practical uses of the Canal in peace and war, Spain had interests far in excess of some of the Powers who had, as it were, a constitutional right to speak on the question, and that as such she was entitled to be listened to as well as they.

His Excellency laid special stress on these future arrangements as those he had in view, and spoke with great contempt of the scheme being at present discussed for establishing a police of the Canal during the period that our military operations were in progress, observing very justly that, as the only danger that could threaten the Canal was from the interior, and as dealing with the interior was left to us, the presence of a number of ships with nothing particular to do along the base of our operations might simply be to impede the latter. Whilst talking on this subject his Excellency took occasion to express his acknowledgments for the cordial spirit in which the officers of the Spanish ships sent to Egypt had been welcomed by the officers of Her Majesty's navy.

Referring to the question of neutralization, in the sense in which I had spoken of it as inadmissible, he said that Spain's interests were identical with ours, as she could not afford the risk, in the case of warlike complications in the Philippine Islands, of seeing her right of military way thither stopped by an international veto.

His Excellency declaimed with much bitterness against the folly of the Spanish press, and the one idea which animated it, which was to discredit and hamper the action of the Government. He spoke with especial contempt of the persistent myth, which nothing could eradicate, respecting the intended dispatch of 25,000 Spanish troops to Egypt.

Referring to the relations between Spain and Germany, his Excellency said that the present Government had found, on taking office, that their predecessors had committed themselves to a very great intimacy with the latter Power, and that the Cabinet of Berlin had, on their side, reiterated their intention to use all their endeavours to raise Spain to the rank of a first-class Power. He had, of course, done his best to cultivate these good relations; but a Liberal Cabinet necessarily occupied a different position towards the Northern Powers from a Conservative one, and he had carefully kept free of all engagements, and reserved perfect liberty of action for the future.

The impression left upon me by this conversation, and especially the change from

the somewhat frigid manner which his Excellency had for some time affected towards Her Majesty's Legation, lead me to believe that the Spanish Government have come round to the view that, as the plot thickens and the final *dénouement* is approaching, Great Britain is, after all, the Power which it is wise to conciliate and to stand well with.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. B. D. MORIER.

No. 451.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 18, 8 A.M.)

(No. 347.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 17, 1882, 11.55 P.M.

DURING the last three days the Sultan has been making a final effort to get the Military Convention into the Conference. Having completely failed, I am in hopes he will make up his mind to accept it. Said Pasha has asked me to come and see him to-morrow at 3.

No. 452.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 18.)

(No. 790. Confidential. Ext. 347.)
My Lord,

Therapia, August 17, 1882.

DURING the last few days the Sultan has been making a final effort to get the Military Convention laid before the Egyptian Conference. His Majesty has, however, completely failed in doing so, and I hope that he will now make up his mind to accept it. The Minister for Foreign Affairs has asked me to call upon him to-morrow.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 453.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 535.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 18, 1882, 4.5 P.M.

YOURS No. 346.

These repeated declarations appear to be superfluous, but you may assent to the proposed formula if you think it necessary.
The word "communication," or the word "consultation," should, however, be substituted for "co-operation."

No. 454.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 503. Ext. 535.)
My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 18, 1882.

I HAVE received your Excellency's telegram of the 17th instant, giving the text of a formula which had been agreed upon by the four Powers, and which, before the adjournment of the Conference, they desired to have inserted in the Protocol of the last meeting, and inquiring whether your Excellency was authorized to make such a declaration.

In reply, I have to state that these repeated declarations appear to Her Majesty's Government to be superfluous, but you may, nevertheless, assent to the proposed formula, should you deem it necessary.

Her Majesty's Government are, however, of opinion that the word "communication" or "consultation" should be substituted for the word "co-operation."

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 19.)

(No. 28.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 18, 1882.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's telegram through his Excellency Lord Lyons, to the effect that the Law Officers of the Crown think that no guarantee of any kind should be given to the Suez Canal Company, as it would encourage claims which could not be supported on legal grounds. That, as the Canal Company gives no warranty that it shall continue open, it would not, if the Canal be closed by a force it cannot control, be liable to any one.

We have the honour to submit that this opinion does not exactly meet the circumstances of the case, which, in our No. 21 of the 7th instant, we stated as the grounds for authorizing us to give this guarantee. We supposed the case of the Canal Company consenting to arrest the traffic for a certain number of hours at our request, and thereby rendering themselves responsible for the delay of the ships wishing to pass through during that time.

The Law Officers suppose a delay not under the control of the Company, but if their assent to our proposal is given, clearly they do exercise a control.

Unless we can give this guarantee there is certainly no chance of the Company giving their assent.

We do not think that such an assent is in any case very probable, but, without the power of offering the guarantee, we certainly have no chance of success in the mission which your Lordship has confided to us.

It was, of course, never contemplated by us that Her Majesty's Government should assume responsibility for consequential claims for alleged loss of markets, &c., but simply for claims for demurrage for the hours of detention—claims which can be exactly assessed, and which ought, we think, in justice, to be satisfied.

We have, &c.

(Signed) C. RIVERS WILSON.
J. STOKES.
EDWD. J. STANDEN.

No. 459.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 19.)

My Lord,

Admiralty, August 18, 1882.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Hoskins, dated Port Said the 11th August, forwarding copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Consul at Port Said detailing his interview with Ibrahim Pasha Rouchdy, who has assumed the duties of Governor of Port Said.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) G. TRYON.

No. 460.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 19.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

Admiralty, August 18, 1882.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, forwarding copy of a telegram from Sir Edward Malet dated 15th August, No. 396, communicating two Proclamations issued by His Highness the Khedive; and I am to request that you will move Earl Granville to cause my Lords to be informed whether any particular instructions should be given to the Commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean as to the manner in which he is to deal with ships attempting to land coal or munitions of war.

I am, &c.

(Signed) G. TRYON.

* Not printed.

The Law Officers of the Crown to Earl Granville.—(Received August 19.)

My Lord,

Temple, August 19, 1882.

WE were honoured with your Lordship's commands signified in Sir Julian Pauncefote's letter of the 16th instant, transmitting to us the following documents:—

1. Despatch of the British Directors of the Suez Canal Company (14th August, 1882).
2. Copies of two Proclamations issued by the Khedive to Egypt.
3. Letter from the British Directors of the Suez Canal Company (7th August, 1882).

4. Letter from same (9th August, 1882).

5. Telegram from Lord Lyons (16th August, 1882), and stating that the letter of the British Directors of the 9th August contained the text of the Articles of the Company's Concession under which the Canal was declared open to the commerce of the world as a neutral passage from sea to sea. That we would perceive from Lord Lyons' telegram that the British Directors asked for authority to declare that Her Majesty's Government would hold the Company harmless against any claims that might be preferred by ship-owners or others on account of delay while British troops were passing through the Canal.

That if the above documents should be sufficient to enable us to arrive at a conclusion on the point, your Lordship would be glad to be favoured with our opinion whether any such claim could legally be made against the Company for delay so occasioned to merchant-vessels, or whether the passage of the British troops, being a belligerent act, performed with the assent of the Khedive, constituted a case of *vis major*, which relieved the Company from liability. Further, if the Company should, in our opinion, be liable for such delay, whether Her Majesty's Government should limit their guarantee of indemnity to such damages as might be recovered by the claimants against the Company in the competent Court.

In obedience to your Lordship's commands, we have the honour to report that we are of opinion that no guarantee of the nature suggested should be given to the Suez Canal Company by Her Majesty's Government.

We cannot foresee that any legal claims can be made by any ship-owners or others on account of the traffic through the Canal being stopped, in consequence of its occupation for military purposes. There is no contract on the part of the Company to keep the Canal open under all circumstances. For instance, if the passage were blocked by a sunken vessel (without negligence on the part of the Company's servants), no claim could be made against the Company by the owner of a ship which was delayed thereby.

If, now the Canal is taken possession of for military purposes, by the presence of a Power which the Company cannot control or contend against, no liability will arise on the part of the Company on account of its inability to allow vessels to pass through the Canal.

If the suggested guarantee be given, there will virtually be an admission made on the part of Her Majesty's Government that such claims can be enforced against the Company, an admission which certainly should be avoided.

We would suggest that any occupation of the Canal which interferes with its ordinary traffic should be expressly sanctioned by the Khedive.

We have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY JAMES.
FARRER HERSCHELL.

No. 462.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 578.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 19, 1882, 2.40 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 187 of 16th.

War Office have communicated with Sir G. Wolseley respecting Sir J. Stokes' question. His reply is that he cannot definitely answer it, but that he will do all in his power to disturb traffic in Canal as little and for as short a time as possible.

No. 463.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 579.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 19, 1882, 3.15 P.M.

INFORM the Suez Canal Directors that they may now make the intimation to the Canal Company in the terms of my despatch of the 14th, and communicate the despatch to the French Government.

No. 464.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 1002. Ext. 579.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 19, 1882.

I HAVE to request that your Excellency will inform the British Suez Canal Directors that they are now at liberty to make the intimation to the Canal Company respecting the military operations in Egypt, of which the terms were laid down in my despatch of the 14th instant, and I have at the same time to authorize your Excellency to communicate that despatch to the French Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 465.

Consul-General Eldridge to Earl Granville.—(Received August 19, 3.15 P.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Aleih, August 19, 1882, 10.50 A.M.

THE Ottoman Government invite by an official advertisement tenders for supply of meat from Syria for 30,000 men in Egypt for one year.

I have not heard of any disturbance during Baïram, though alarm of the Christian population continues.

No. 466.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 19, 3.20 P.M.)

(No. 104.)

(Telegraphic.)

Rome, August 19, 1882, 1.20 P.M.

POLITICAL Director of Ministry for Foreign Affairs informs me that all the Powers have sent instructions to suspend sittings of Conference, and that any proposal to this effect will be unanimously supported. I therefore presume sittings may be considered suspended, and propose, unless I hear to the contrary, to leave Rome Monday morning.

No. 467.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 19, 3.30 P.M.)

(No. 348.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 19, 1882, 11.30 A.M.

YOUR telegram No. 535.

I have reason to know that the word "co-operation" has been purposely introduced, in order to supersede the word "consultation" or "communication." The formula I referred to in my telegram No. 346 was not concocted here, but had evidently been the product of consultation between the four Governments.

I have carefully avoided all discussion of the subject, but have ascertained the foregoing facts from allusions casually made to me by my colleagues.

No. 468*.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 19.)

(No. 794. Confidential. Ext. 348.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 19, 1882.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's telegram No. 346 of yesterday, proposing certain amendments to the declaration which the four Powers wish to insert into the Protocol of the final meeting of the Conference, as stated in my despatch No. 789 of the 17th instant.

I have reason to know that the word "coopération" has been purposely introduced in order to supersede the word "consultation" or "communication." The formula I have submitted to your Lordship was not drawn up here, but is evidently the result of consultation between the four Governments.

I have ascertained the foregoing from allusions casually made to me by my colleagues, but I have carefully avoided all discussion of the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 468.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 19, 3.45 P.M.)

(No. 400.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 19, 1882, noon.

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 427 of the 17th instant.

The Khedive asks that his brother, Prince Ibrahim Hilmy, may not be allowed to accompany the British expedition, or to come to Egypt at present. He says that he was aware that his father had told the Prince to apply, but that this brother is the son of the Second Princess, who attempted to land in Egypt in the spring, and that his presence here could but lead to intrigue.

His Highness hopes, later on, when his power is firmly re-established, to permit the return of all his brothers, but he considers that the return of any one of them now would be dangerous.

No. 469.

Earl Granville to Consul Churchill.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 19, 1882, 4.20 P.M.

YOUR proceedings, as reported in your despatch No. 33, are approved by War Office. Report conditions, rates of pay, &c., fixed for mule-drivers.

No. 470.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 19, 5.20 P.M.)

(No. 87.)

(Telegraphic.)

Vienna, August 19, 1882, 2.4 P.M.

THERE is no objection to the engagement of workmen at Trieste for unloading the ships in Egypt.

No. 471.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 286.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 19, 1882.

I APPROVE the note to the Italian Government, of which copy was forwarded in your Excellency's despatch No. 334 of the 11th instant, respecting the return of fugitives to Alexandria.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 472.

Earl Granville to M. Hengelmüller.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires,

Foreign Office, August 19, 1882.

IN reply to the inquiry made by your Excellency on the 15th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the Turkish Government has not applied to Her Majesty's Government for the issue of an order to insure information being given to Turkish officials as to the names and nationality of vessels carrying explosive materials to Turkish ports.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

M. Hengelmüller to Earl Granville.—(Received August 19.)

Dear Lord Granville, *Buckhurst, Withyham, Sussex, August 19, 1882.*
COUNT KÁLNOKY has just informed me that, as the prolongation of the sittings of the Conference promises no advantage, he has authorized Baron Calice to vote for the adjournment of the Conference in conformity with the last identic telegram, and in common with the representations of the other Powers. We think that Count Corti might, in his capacity of "doyen," make this proposition in the name of the Six Powers.

Count Kálnoky has besides informed me of the declaration which Lord Dufferin has declared himself ready to make at the occasion of the adjournment of the Conference, and has added that he considers that declaration as quite satisfactory.

I leave here to-night for Penn House, Amersham, Bucks, on a visit to Lady Howe, and would be much obliged if you sent me a line there in case you should wish me to convey a message to Vienna.

I beg, &c.
(Signed) HENGELMÜLLER.

No. 474.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 19, 10:30 P.M.)

(No. 401.)
(Telegraphic.) *Alexandria, August 19, 1882, 4:30 P.M.*
SIR G. WOLSELEY and Sir B. Seymour left Alexandria to-day. The following Proclamation has been issued by authority of the Khedive:—

"Proclamation to the Egyptians.

"The General in command of the British forces wishes to make known that the object of Her Majesty's Government in sending troops to this country is to re-establish the authority of the Khedive. The army is therefore only fighting against those who are in arms against His Highness. All peaceable inhabitants will be treated with kindness, and no violence will be offered to them. Their religion, mosques, families, and property will be respected. Any supplies which will be required will be paid for, and the inhabitants are invited to bring them. The General in command will be glad to receive visits from the Chiefs who are willing to assist in repressing the rebellion against the Khedive, the lawful Ruler of Egypt appointed by the Sultan.

(Signed) "G. J. WOLSELEY, General,
"Commander-in-chief of the British Army in Egypt."
"Alexandria, August 19, 1882."
(Repeated to Constantinople.)

No. 475.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 19, 10:30 P.M.)

(No. 402.)
(Telegraphic.) *Alexandria, August 19, 1882, 4:40 P.M.*
THE Khedive has to-day appointed Chérif Pasha to be President of the Council of Ministers, and has relieved Ragheb Pasha and the other Ministers of their duties. Chérif Pasha assumes office at once, but awaits the arrival of Riaz Pasha, who is expected on Wednesday, to consult with him on distribution of the Ministers.
(Sent to Constantinople.)

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 19.)

(No. 549. Ext. 402.)
My Lord,

Alexandria, August 19, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Khedive has to-day relieved Ragheb Pasha and his colleagues of their duties, and has named Chérif Pasha as President of the Council of Ministers.

His Excellency has at once entered upon his duties, and awaits the arrival of his Excellency Riaz Pasha, who is expected here on Wednesday next by the French mail-steamer, to concert with him for the appointment of the other Ministers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 477.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 19, 11 P.M.)

(No. 350.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, August 19, 1882, 2 P.M.*
I SPENT five hours yesterday evening discussing the Convention with Saïd Pasha and Assim, with the following results:—
The preamble is accepted, but they desire to translate the word to "co-operate" by the French words "d'accord avec."
Article No. I is accepted in principle, but they desire to change the phraseology as follows:—

"The Imperial Government having the intention of sending to Egypt a corps d'armée, fixes the total of the first division to be sent at 5,000 or 6,000 men, the arrival of the necessary number to be the subject of a subsequent agreement between the Contracting Parties."

Article II. They wanted to fix Alexandria, Port Saïd, and Suez as the ports of disembarkation. I told them this was impossible; but I gave them their choice of Aboukir, Damietta, and Rosetta, which they accepted *ad referendum*.

The IIIrd Article they wanted to eliminate altogether. Eventually they agreed to submit the following version to the Sultan:—

"The Commanders-in-chief of the two corps d'armée will agree beforehand on the movements and military operations of the Ottoman troops."

Article IV. In this Article they desire to add a clause that if after the English troops have evacuated the country it is desirable to prolong the stay of the Ottoman troops, the Porte shall have the faculty of doing so after an agreement on the subject has been arrived at by the Contracting Parties. I told them there was no chance of your Lordship assenting to this clause, as we intended to stay until order was restored, and after order was restored, it was not desirable that the Turkish troops should remain.

Article V. They want to be allowed to send an officer of the same rank to be attached to the English head-quarters.

Though the phraseology of the Turkish modifications is less calculated to wound the susceptibilities of the Sultan's *amour-propre* than our original draft, it seems to me sufficiently to secure the objects we have in view. By Article I the Ottoman contingent will be limited to the number your Lordship has named, and no reinforcement can be added to it without our consent. By Article III the Ottoman troops will not be able either to move or to operate without the consent of the British Commander-in-chief. I have told the Ottoman Delegates that their amendment to Article IV is unacceptable, even though its application implies the previous consent of the British Government.

All the Turkish amendments have but one object in view, namely, that of enabling Ministers to persuade the Sultan that they have succeeded in rendering the Convention compatible with His Majesty's dignity.

Before we concluded, the Ottoman Delegates told me that they could only agree to the foregoing *ad referendum*. I have grave doubts whether the Sultan will even now accept.

There will not be any difficulty in the alterations in the Proclamation, but they

evidently want to get the Convention settled first. I told them that any longer delay in the issue of the Proclamation would be considered by us as a proof of bad faith, and of an unfriendly feeling, as its appearance might materially help to shorten the conflict, and diminish loss of life.

We must count upon M. de Nelidoff doing all he can to thwart us.

No. 478.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 19.)

(No. 796. Confidential. Ext. 350.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 19, 1882.

I SPENT five hours yesterday evening discussing the Military Convention with Saïd and Assim Pashas.

The Preamble is accepted, but the Ottoman Delegates desire that the word "co-operate" should be translated by the French word "d'accord avec."

Article I is accepted in principle. The Turkish Delegates wish, however, to change the wording of it as follows:—

"The Imperial Government having the intention of sending to Egypt a corps d'armée, fixes the total of the first division to be sent at 5,000 or 6,000 men, the arrival at the necessary number to be the subject of a subsequent agreement between the Contracting Parties."

Article II. The Ottoman Delegates had fixed on Alexandria, Port Saïd, and Suez as the ports of debarkation. I told them this was impossible, but gave them their choice of Aboukir, Damietta, and Rosetta, which they accepted *ad referendum*.

They wanted to eliminate Article III altogether, but eventually agreed to submit the following version to the Sultan:—

"The Commanders-in-chief of the two corps d'armée will agree beforehand on the movements and military operations of the Ottoman troops."

Article IV. To this Article the Ottoman Delegates desire to add a clause that if, after the English army has evacuated the country, it is desirable to prolong the stay of the Ottoman troops, the Porte shall have the faculty of doing so, an agreement on the subject having been previously arrived at by the Contracting Parties.

I told them that there was no chance of your Lordship assenting to this clause, as we intended to stay until order was restored, and, after order was restored, it was not desirable that the Ottoman troops should remain.

Article V. They wish to be allowed to send an officer of the same rank to be attached to the English head-quarters.

Though the phraseology of the Ottoman modifications is less calculated to wound the susceptibilities of the Sultan's *amour-propre* than our original draft, it appears to me sufficiently to secure the objects we have in view.

By Article I the Ottoman contingent will be limited to the number your Lordship has named, and no reinforcements can be added to it without our consent.

By Article III the Turkish troops will not be able either to move or to operate without the consent of the British Commander-in-chief.

I have told the Ottoman Delegates their amendment to Article IV is unacceptable; even its application implies the previous consent of the British Government.

All the Turkish amendments have but one object in view, namely, that of enabling the Ministers to persuade the Sultan that they have succeeded in rendering the Convention compatible with his dignity.

Before we concluded, the Ottoman Delegates told me that they could only agree to the foregoing *ad referendum*.

I have grave doubts whether the Sultan will, even now, accept them. There will not be any difficulty in the alterations in the Proclamation, but the Ottoman Government evidently want to get the Convention settled first. I told them that any further delay in the issue of the Proclamation would be considered by us as a proof of bad faith and of an unfriendly feeling, as its appearance might materially help to shorten the conflict and diminish loss of life. We must count, however, on the Russian Minister doing all in his power to thwart us.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 479.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 20, 10 A.M.)

(No. 351.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 19, 1882, 11:30 P.M.

AS I feared would be the case, the Sultan has not confirmed the draft Articles of the Convention which his Ministers accepted *ad referendum*. He has struck out the clause requiring our consent to the landing of reinforcements in Egypt, and he has renewed his demand for Alexandria as the port of entry. He has accepted the clause requiring the assent of our Commander to the movements and operations of the Turkish forces on condition that, if the Turkish troops find themselves not in sufficient numbers, the Turkish Commander-in-chief shall have the faculty of arresting military operations until he shall receive the necessary augmentations.

The two Ottoman Ministers have asked me to see them to-morrow, but I have declined, on the ground that our interview would be useless, as my instructions do not authorize me to discuss their last proposals. I conclude you prefer no Convention and no Turkish troops to acceptance of foregoing conditions, and I propose adhering inflexibly to the principles of your original draft Convention until I receive instructions to the contrary.

I have reason to believe both my Austrian and German colleagues consider the principles of the Convention as phrased in my telegram No. 350 of this morning are reasonable, and ought to be accepted by the Porte, though of course this is a mere private and personal opinion on their part, which they did not directly express, but allowed me to gather.

No. 480.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 20.)

(No. 798. Ext. 351.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 19, 1882.

THE Sultan has, as I feared would be the case, not confirmed the draft Articles of the Convention which his Ministers accepted *ad referendum*, as reported in my despatch No. 796 of this day's date. His Majesty has struck out the clause requiring our consent to the landing of reinforcements in Egypt, and he has renewed his demand for Alexandria as the port of entry. He has accepted the clause requiring the assent of our Commander to the movements and operations of the Turkish forces, on condition that, if the Ottoman troops find themselves not in sufficient numbers, the Turkish Commander-in-chief shall have the faculty of arresting the military operations of his own forces until he shall receive the necessary reinforcements.

The two Turkish Ministers have asked me to see them to-morrow, but I have declined to do so on the ground that our interview would be useless, as my instructions do not permit me to discuss their last proposals. I conclude that your Lordship prefers no Convention and no Ottoman troops to accepting the foregoing conditions; and I propose adhering inflexibly to the principles of your original draft Convention until I receive instructions to the contrary.

I have reason to believe that both my Austrian and German colleagues consider that the clauses of the Convention, as phrased in the amendments accepted *ad referendum* mentioned in my above-mentioned despatch, are reasonable, and ought to be accepted by the Sublime Porte; though of course this is a mere private and personal opinion on their part which they did not directly express, but allowed me to gather from their observations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 481.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 20, 11 A.M.)

(No. 352.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 19, 1882, 11:55 P.M.

I HAVE made every possible exertion, both at the Porte and at the Palace, to get the mules off to-day, but I have not succeeded. A Mazbata has gone to the Palace from

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the Ministers recommending that permission should be given, but it had not reached the Sultan when Sir A. Sandison left Yildiz late to-night.

I have informed the Porte that we shall claim damages for the loss sustained by the illegal detention of our property contrary to Treaty, and that we have taken note of the unfriendly spirit evinced by its delay in acquiescing in our request.

No. 482.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 20, 2 P.M.)

(No. 403.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 19, 1882, 10.45 P.M.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD has been promoted, and his service out here thereby ceases. The Khedive is anxious that he should remain, and Lord Charles wishes it also. Khedive therefore proposes to attach him to His Highness' staff during the campaign. His Highness would be much obliged to your Lordship if you could obtain permission for Lord Charles to accept the appointment. Khedive applied to the Admiral about it yesterday, but he replied just before leaving that Lord Charles was no longer under him.

No. 483.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 20, 2 P.M.)

(No. 188.)

(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 20, 1882, 11.30 A.M.

SUEZ Canal Directors address the following to your Lordship, and suggest that it should be communicated immediately to the War Office:—

"We last night communicated to M. Charles Lesseps a note in terms of your Lordship's despatch of 14th instant, and added a request that transports should pay dues at Ismaïlia, and that the regular traffic should be suspended during the short period necessary.

"He answered that M. Ferdinand Lesseps has full powers to act for the Company; that the Council will not meet here, having delegated all power to him; and that, even if they would, a meeting of the Council could not be held in time on account of the urgency of the case. He therefore telegraphed late last night to his father the full text of our note, and our added request. He declined to express any opinion, but he evidently did not expect that his father would meet the wishes of Her Majesty's Government."

No. 484.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 20.)

(No. 926. Ext. 188.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 20, 1882.

SIR JOHN STOKES and Sir Charles Rivers Wilson request me to forward the following Report from them to your Lordship:—

We communicated to M. Charles de Lesseps last night a Memorandum in the terms of your Lordship's despatch to us of the 14th instant, and we requested, at the same time, that the transports should pay dues at Ismaïlia, and that the regular traffic through the Suez Canal should be suspended during the short period necessary for the passage of these vessels.

M. Charles de Lesseps answered that his father, M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, the President Director, had received full powers to act for the Company; that the Board of Administration, having delegated all powers to M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, would not act here; and that even if this were otherwise, the case was so urgent that a meeting of the Board could not be held in time.

This being the case, M. Charles de Lesseps dispatched late last night, by telegraph to his father, the full text of our Memorandum and the requests which we had added to it, as stated above.

M. Charles de Lesseps declined to express any opinion of his own, but it was plain to us that he did not expect that the wishes of Her Majesty's Government would be acceded to by his father.

We venture to suggest that the above should be communicated immediately to the War Office.

I have forwarded the substance of this despatch to your Lordship by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 485.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 20, 2.10 P.M.)

(No. 189.)

(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 20, 1882, 11.45 A.M.

I PUT into the hands of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs last night a copy of your Lordship's letter to the Suez Canal Directors of the 14th, and begged him to use the friendly influence of the French Government with the Company.

The Minister said that he would see M. Charles Lesseps on the subject this morning.

No. 486.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 20.)

(No. 928. Ext. 189.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 20, 1882.

I HAD last evening the honour to receive your Lordship's telegram No. 579 of that date, and I immediately informed Sir John Stokes and Sir Charles Rivers Wilson that your Lordship desired that they would now make the communication to the Suez Canal Company prescribed by your Lordship's despatch to them of the 14th instant.

They lost no time in taking steps to confer with M. Charles de Lesseps, and I have had the honour to forward to your Lordship a Report by them of their interview with him.

On my part, having succeeded in arranging a meeting with M. Duclerc, I put into his hand a copy of the despatch from your Lordship to the Suez Canal Directors above mentioned, and having explained the purport of it to him, I begged him to use the friendly influence of the French Government with the Company, in order to induce them to comply with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, and to place their relations with the officers of Her Majesty's forces on a proper and cordial footing.

After some conversation M. Duclerc said that he would see M. Charles de Lesseps on the subject early the next morning.

I have had the honour to transmit the substance of this despatch to your Lordship by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 487.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 20, 4 P.M.)

(No. 190.)

(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 20, 1882, 2.15 P.M.

M. CHARLES DE LESSEPS informs Sir J. Stokes that his father has telegraphed from Ismaïlia that English Admiral at Suez has stopped all traffic through the Canal from that end, and that he has protested. His telegram was sent at 11 yesterday forenoon.

M. C. de Lesseps observes that this act of force took place twelve hours before British Directors' communication to him inviting agreement with the Company on warlike operations.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 20.)

(No. 930. Ext. 190.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 20, 1882.

SIR JOHN STOKES desires to report to your Lordship that he is informed by M. Charles de Lesseps that in a telegram sent off at 11 A.M. yesterday, M. Ferdinand de Lesseps states that the English Admiral at Suez has stopped all traffic through the Canal, and that he himself has protested.

M. Charles de Lesseps observes, moreover, to Sir John Stokes, that this act of force took place twelve hours before the communication, inviting an agreement with the Company on warlike operations, was made to him by the British Directors last night.

I have forwarded the substance of this despatch to your Lordship by telegraph.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 20, 6.15 P.M.)

(No. 353.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 20, 1882, 2.45 P.M.

I FIND that the Porte is ordering the Governors of all the provinces to prevent the export of any mules or other animals which we may want. I have repeated my remonstrance in the strongest possible terms. I am afraid that only chance of getting things settled as we desire is by thoroughly frightening Sultan. I have already told Saïd Pasha that, in consequence of the non-communication of the Proclamation, and of the Sultan's resistance to the Convention, as well as of the unfriendly action adopted in regard to the mules, I must beg him to consider as withdrawn and nullified all the friendly assurances which from time to time I may have given him in reference to the Egyptian question outside of the Conference.

I have further implied that, when the final settlement arrives, we shall certainly not forget the annoyance to which we have been thus wilfully exposed, and we will not go out of our way to further the views and wishes of the Sultan beyond the point necessitated by our own interests.

Can you place any further menace at my disposition?

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(Telegraphic.)

Walmer Castle, August 20, 1882.

AUSTRIAN Minister for Foreign Affairs says he is satisfied with declaration you are prepared to make. To what does he refer?

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 318.)

(Telegraphic.)

Walmer Castle, August 20, 1882.

YOUR No. 104.

When you receive the news that Conference has actually suspended its sittings, you are authorized to leave Rome.

Earl Granville to Prince Ibrahim Hilmy.

(Telegraphic.)

Walmer Castle, August 20, 1882.

AFTER communication with Egypt, Her Majesty's Government regret that they are unable to accept the offer of your Highness' service with the army.

Earl Granville to Mr. Morier.

(No. 129 A.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 20, 1882.

THE Spanish Minister came to Walmer Castle to-day to ask me, on behalf of his Government, whether I would instruct Sir A. Paget to inform the Government of Italy that Her Majesty's Government would welcome the co-operation of Spain for the protection of the Suez Canal, and would be glad that the Italian Government should take the initiative in making a proposal to that effect.

I told the Marquis de Casa Laiglesia that I did not quite understand the drift of the question, as I had reason to believe that the Conference was about to suspend its sittings, but that I should have pleasure in informing the Italian Government of the answer which I had already returned to the communication he had recently made to me on the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 752.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 10, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the Protocol destined for Her Majesty's Government, which has been signed on the 7th instant by the Plenipotentiaries at the fourteenth meeting of the Egyptian Conference.

It states that the Ottoman Government accept the identic note of the 15th July last with reference to the dispatch of Turkish troops to Egypt.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 494.

Protocol of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Conference on Egyptian Affairs.

Séance du 7 Août, 1882.

Présidence du Son Excellence SAÏD PACHA.

Étaient présents :

- Pour la Grande-Bretagne—
Son Excellence M. le Comte de Dufferin, Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique.
- Pour l'Allemagne—
M. de Hirschfeldt, Chargé d'Affaires d'Allemagne.
- Pour l'Autriche-Hongrie—
Son Excellence M. le Baron de Calice, Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Impériale et Royale Apostolique.
- Pour la France—
Son Excellence M. le Marquis de Noailles, Ambassadeur de la République Française.
- Pour l'Italie—
Son Excellence M. le Comte Corti, Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté le Roi d'Italie.
- Pour la Russie—
M. Onou, Chargé d'Affaires de Russie.
- Pour la Turquie—
Son Excellence Saïd Pacha, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, et Son Excellence Assim Pacha, Ministre de l'Evcaïf.

MM. LES Délégués Ottomans ont fait à la Conférence la déclaration suivante :—
"La Sublime Porte accepte l'invitation d'intervenir militairement en Égypte
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qui lui a été adressée par la note identique du 15 Juillet, ainsi que les clauses et conditions qui s'y trouvent énumérées."

La susdite déclaration a été acceptée par la Conférence.

En foi de quoi MM. les Plénipotentiaires ci-dessus nommés ont signé le présent Protocole.

(Signé) DUFFERIN.
L. VON HIRSCHFELDT.
CALICE.
MARQUIS DE NOAILLES.
L. CORTI.
ONOU.
SAÏD.
M. ASSIM.

No. 495.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 779.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 14, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I have communicated to the Embassies here and to the Greek Minister the substance of Mr. Cartwright's telegram to your Lordship No 389 of the 8th instant, repeated to me in your Lordship's telegram No. 511 of the 10th instant with regard to the return of foreigners to Alexandria.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 496.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

E

(No. 784.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 15, 1882.

I THINK it advisable to put it on record that, when complying with your Lordship's instructions to acquiesce in the Italian proposal relative to the temporary organization of a maritime police in the Suez Canal, I was careful to make it perfectly clear to the Conference that the arrangements under discussion did not in any sense or degree imply the neutralization of the Canal, which was a principle to which the British Government would never subscribe.

All the Representatives fully recognized the distinction, and the Russian Representative repudiated the idea of even hinting at such a proposition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 497.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 785.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 15, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the Protocol of the sixteenth meeting of the Egyptian Conference, which is destined for Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 497.

Protocol of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Conference on Egyptian Affairs.

Séance du 10 Août, 1882.

Présidence de Son Excellence SAÏD PACHA.

Étaient présents :

- Pour la Grande-Bretagne—
Son Excellence M. le Comte de Dufferin, Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique.
- Pour l'Allemagne—
M. de Hirschfeldt, Chargé d'Affaires d'Allemagne.
- Pour l'Autriche-Hongrie—
Son Excellence M. le Baron de Calice, Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Impériale et Royale Apostolique.
- Pour la France—
Son Excellence M. le Marquis de Noailles, Ambassadeur de la République Française.
- Pour l'Italie—
Son Excellence M. le Comte Corti, Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté le Roi d'Italie.
- Pour la Russie—
M. Onou, Chargé d'Affaires de Russie.
- Pour la Turquie—
Son Excellence Saïd Pacha, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, et Son Excellence Assim Pacha, Ministre de l'Évac.

Le Président a remis en discussion à l'ouverture de la séance la proposition Italienne concernant le Canal de Suez, dont le texte a déjà été présenté à la Conférence.

Les Représentants d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, et de Russie ont confirmé leur adhésion antérieure.

Le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères en confirmant à son tour l'adhésion du Gouvernement Ottoman, a ajouté que la Sublime Porte s'y est prêtée d'autant plus volontiers que la défense du Canal par voie de terre incombe aux troupes Impériales qui se rendront en Égypte.

L'Ambassadeur d'Italie a répondu que cette question n'entraîne point dans la proposition qui était en délibération.

La Conférence a adhéré à cette manière de voir.
L'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre a déclaré que son Gouvernement adhérerait également à la proposition Italienne à la condition qu'il soit entendu qu'elle se limite, dans ses effets, à la crise actuelle, et ne soit pas un empêchement, si la nécessité se produit, soit pour l'Angleterre, soit pour les autres Puissances, de mettre des troupes à terre et d'occuper certains points nécessaires à la sécurité du Canal. Il est également entendu que l'Angleterre réserve toute sa liberté d'action pour les opérations militaires ayant en vue le rétablissement de l'autorité du Khédive.

L'Ambassadeur de France a fait savoir qu'il attendait incessamment ses instructions.

Le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie a demandé à l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre des explications sur l'occupation de Suez par les troupes Anglaises.

L'Ambassadeur d'Autriche-Hongrie s'est associé à cette demande.
Lord Dufferin a répondu que cette occupation avait été effectuée par ordre de l'Amiral Anglais en vue de sauver la ville d'un danger imminent, et devait être considérée comme ne portant aucune atteinte au caractère international du Canal.

Le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères a annoncé que, par suite de l'acceptation par le Gouvernement Ottoman de la note identique, les troupes Impériales allaient partir aujourd'hui ou demain et, en réponse à une demande de l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre, a

ajouté qu'elles ne débarqueraient pas en Égypte avant l'arrivée du Commissaire et du Général-en-chef.

(Signé) DUFFERIN.
L. VON HIRSCHFELDT.
CALICE.
MARQUIS DE NOAILLES.
L. CORTI.
ONOU.
SAÏD.
M. ASSIM.

No. 498.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 414.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 12, 1882.

THE report published in most of the newspapers that M. Nelidow, who lately passed through Vienna to take up his appointment as Russian Minister at Constantinople, was only intended by his Government to occupy the post provisionally, is entirely disbelieved here.

I am told that the Porte was rather alarmed lest the appointment of a Minister instead of an Ambassador indicated a disposition on the part of the Russian Government to assume an unfriendly attitude towards Turkey, but that it was explained to the Ottoman Ambassador at St. Petersburg that the reason of it was that M. de Nelidow was a comparatively untried man, whom it was not thought advisable at once to invest with the higher rank.

It seems, however, to be expected that M. Nelidow may be not unwilling to bring himself into notice by the exhibition of more activity than had been shown by his predecessor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 499.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 415. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 12, 1882.

COUNT KÁLNOKY feels some anxiety about the prevalence of Mahomedan irritation which he hears of from many parts of Turkey, and in consequence of the accounts he has received from Syria, he directed Baron Calice to call the attention of the Sultan's Government to the state of that district, and to recommend them not to withdraw troops from it.

I understand the German Government to have given a similar warning.

It seems to be believed that an impression has been gradually gaining ground among the Mussulmans that a policy of systematic hostility to them was being pursued by the Christian Powers.

The irritation caused by the pressure put upon Turkey to obtain the execution of the Treaty of Berlin was aggravated by the French occupation of Tunis, and the proceedings taken with respect to the affairs of Egypt has been sedulously represented as an attempt on the part of Christian Governments to secure a supremacy in a Mahomedan country.

The relations between the Mussulmans and Christians in most parts of Turkey are stated to be much more unsatisfactory than they have been for many years, and are not seen by the Austrian Government entirely without uneasiness.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 500.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 419.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 16, 1882.

I MENTIONED to Count Kálnoky, in the terms of your Lordship's telegram No. 288, that Her Majesty's Government adhere to the declaration that the definitive settlement of the affairs of Egypt must be subject to a reference to the united Powers of Europe; but that, during the military operations and at their close, they will make all such arrangements as the interests involved may appear to require.

His Excellency fully understood the necessity for such a reserve.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 501.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

E

(No. 421. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 18, 1882.

SIR J. WALSHAM, in his despatch No. 308 of the 7th instant, in laying before your Lordship the considerations by which Prince Bismarck appears to be guided with reference to the Egyptian question, makes some remarks upon the feelings that may be expected to guide the Austrian Government in the course they would wish to follow when the ultimate settlement has to be come to in which I am unable altogether to concur, as I do not apprehend them to entertain any wish to take a leading part in directing the affairs of Egypt.

At what may be called the commencement of the Egyptian question, the Austrian Government considered that England and France went further than their admittedly superior interests in Egypt warranted by taking steps and coming to decisions without reference to the other Powers, which, if their interests were less, were still entitled to a voice in matters affecting a country respecting which there were international arrangements in which all were concerned.

The dethronement of the ex-Khedive was looked upon as being a dangerous expedient brought about in an objectionable manner by the exclusive action of two alone of the European Powers, and when the Anglo-French Control was being established the Austrian Government resented not having been consulted when measures affecting the pecuniary interests of their subjects were being concerted.

There has, however, never been any backwardness on the part of Count Kálnoky in declaring his readiness to support the re-establishment of the *status quo* in Egypt, including the Anglo-French Control as it existed, and the feeling has of late rather been one of thankfulness at not being called upon to take an active part rather than one of soreness at having been excluded from a position which would have rendered it necessary to do so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 502.

Sir E. Thornton to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

E

(No. 259.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, August 15, 1882.

I UNDERSTAND that M. de la Barre, Spanish Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburg, recently received instructions from his Government to submit to M. de Giers that Spain considered that she had a right to a voice in any deliberations or decisions which might be come to with regard to the protection or future political position of the Suez Canal, and to solicit the support by Russia of this claim.

On the receipt of this instruction, M. de la Barre (whether he was directed to do so or not, I know not) called upon M. Mazel, the Netherlands Minister to Russia, represented to him that Holland was quite as much interested in the question of the Suez Canal as Spain, if not more so, and pressed him to join him in representing to

the Russian Government that the Netherlands and Spain had both a right to be consulted on the subject. But M. Mazel had received no instructions whatever from his Government to make such a representation, nor indeed any allusion to the subject, and he therefore declined to join M. de la Barre in entering upon it with M. de Giers. The Spanish Chargé d'Affaires therefore alone submitted to M. de Giers the substance of his instructions, and states that he is perfectly satisfied with the manner in which his representations were received by his Excellency, who expressed his opinion that Spain was fully entitled to the right which she claimed, and added that, if there should be an opportunity, the Imperial Government would support that view of the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. THORNTON.

No. 503.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

E
(No. 330. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Berlin, August 19, 1882.

IN some of the recent telegrams from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople allusion is made to a suspicion which seemed to be entertained in certain quarters, that the reluctance of the Sultan to conclude the Military Convention with Great Britain was possibly the result of advice given to His Majesty by the Representatives of France and Russia.

I was at the Foreign Office yesterday, and I expressed my personal regret to Count Hatzfeldt that the Sultan should be placing difficulties in the way of the Convention at a moment when, as his Excellency was fully aware, Her Majesty's Government were, even to their own prejudice as regards the commencement of military operations in Egypt, showing their good faith towards Turkey by their anxiety to act with the Sultan in restoring order.

I could scarcely, I said, imagine that this opposition came from the Sultan himself, and I asked Count Hatzfeldt privately whether he considered it likely that any of the Powers might be counselling His Majesty not to sign the Convention. His Excellency assured me that he had not noticed the slightest symptom of such counsels having been offered. He knew that several Powers were doing all they could to persuade the Sultan to come to some agreement with Her Majesty's Government in the matter of the Convention, and he knew of none who were adopting a contrary course. There had been some question, he believed, of suggesting that the Convention should be submitted to the Conference, but this idea, he understood, had been entirely abandoned.

Supposing, Count Hatzfeldt added, that any Power wished to embarrass England at the present moment, would it not be much more probable that such Power would rather urge the Sultan to go with you to Egypt than to abstain from going.

We, you know, his Excellency went on to say, are in favour of the Sultan joining you, certainly not, however, for the purpose of embarrassing you, but because, as His Majesty was invited to intervene in Egypt and accepted the invitation, the presence of Turkish troops would, as it were, be the legal result of the invitation.

I may mention that I called to-day upon the French Ambassador, as he is going to Paris on leave the day after to-morrow, and in the course of conversation, I asked his Excellency the same question which I had put to Count Hatzfeldt yesterday.

Baron de Courcel remarked that he could hardly believe any Power was advising the Sultan not to come to terms with Great Britain. We, he said, even if for the moment we were not "hors de jeu," should not be inclined to give such counsel. Germany is certainly not giving it, and as regards the remaining Powers, who are naturally interested in obtaining more influence in Egypt, it would be scarcely probable that their advice would be of a nature to insure your being left to yourselves in Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 504.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 29.)

Paris, August 18, 1882.

My Lord,

IN obedience to your Lordship's despatch of the 16th instant, we have the honour to forward herewith a draft of the statement which we propose to make to the Suez Canal Company on the subject of the neutrality of the Canal as claimed by M. de Lesseps.

We have, &c.
(Signed) J. STOKES.
C. RIVERS WILSON.
EDWD. J. STANDEN.

Inclosure in No. 504.

Draft of Declaration as to "Neutrality" of the Suez Canal, to be made by the British Suez Canal Directors at the Meeting of the Company in September.

DANS la séance du 1^{er} Août, M. Charles A. de Lesseps a fait un exposé des opinions du Président-Directeur de la Compagnie sur la question de la neutralité du Canal.

Cette déclaration a reçu l'assentiment du Conseil d'Administration exprimé dans sa Résolution du 5 Août.

Dans la séance du 1^{er} Août, nous avons pris acte des paroles de M. Charles de Lesseps, avec l'intention d'en référer au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté; et dans la séance du 5 Août, Mr. Standen a cru devoir voter dans un sens contraire à la dite Résolution.

Nous avons l'honneur maintenant de communiquer au Conseil d'Administration l'opinion du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique au sujet des prétentions de la Compagnie, prétentions qui visent directement la politique et l'action du Gouvernement Anglais.

La position de la Compagnie se trouve très clairement définie dans les Actes de Concession de 1854 et 1856, et dans la Convention du 27 Février, 1866, lesquels ont été confirmés par le Firman du Sultan du 19 Mars, 1866.

La Compagnie n'a rien à réclamer en dehors du texte de ces instruments qui définissent ses droits tout en les limitant d'une manière précise.

Les Articles à examiner sont les suivants:—

Acte de Concession du 30 Novembre, 1854, Article 4.

Acte de Concession du 5 Janvier, 1856, Article 14.

Convention du 22 Février, 1866, Articles IX, X, et XI.

Tout d'abord il est à noter que les expressions "neutralité du Canal" et "zone neutre," qui ont été si fréquemment employées, ne se trouvent ni dans les Actes de Concession ni dans la Convention, omission motivée par les stipulations mêmes de ces Actes.

Article 14 de l'Acte de 1856 déclare le Canal et les ports en dépendant ouverts à toujours comme passages neutres à tout navire de commerce, sans aucune distinction ni préférence.

Il est à remarquer que les bâtiments de guerre n'y sont pas mentionnés, les passages étant déclarés neutres seulement pour les bâtiments de commerce.

D'autre côté, les autres Articles dont il a été fait mention réservent expressément au Khédive les pouvoirs suivants:—

1. L'exercice des droits de police sur le Canal et sur toutes ses dépendances, comme sur tout autre point du territoire, de façon à assurer le bon ordre, la sécurité publique, et l'exécution des lois et règlements du pays.*

2. Le passage à travers le Canal sur les points qu'il jugera nécessaire.†

3. L'occupation dans le périmètre des terrains réservés comme dépendances du Canal Maritime, de toute position ou de tout point stratégique qu'il jugera nécessaire à la défense du pays.‡

* Article IX, Convention, 1866.

† Ditto.

‡ Article X, Convention, 1866.

4. L'établissement des fortifications qu'il jugera à propos.*

5. L'occupation pour ses services administratifs (poste, douane, caserne, &c.) de tout emplacement disponible qu'il jugera convenable.†

On doit déduire de ce qui précède que le Khédive a droit plein et entier d'exécuter toute opération militaire sur le Canal et ses dépendances qu'il jugera nécessaire pour le maintien de son autorité. C'est le cas prévu par les Articles mêmes qui viennent d'être cités.

Il n'est donc pas nécessaire de chercher l'autorisation du Sultan à chaque occasion de l'exercice de ces droits puisque aucune atteinte ne serait portée aux stipulations ratifiées par le Firman, ainsi que le prétend la Résolution du Conseil d'Administration.

Sur l'invitation du Khédive, qui se trouve ainsi pleinement autorisé, à laquelle toute publicité a été donnée, le Gouvernement Anglais prête sa coopération à Son Altesse, et il a reçu d'elle tous les pouvoirs nécessaires pour agir en son nom.

Les démarches des Commandants Anglais, dont s'est plaint la Compagnie, ont été prises en vertu de cette autorisation, et ne peuvent en aucune manière être considérées en dérogation des droits réservés à la Compagnie, ni un abus de ceux qui appartiennent au Gouvernement Égyptien.

Il ne s'agit pas ici d'un état de guerre, mais simplement de mesures pour la suppression d'une révolte par le Souverain du pays.

Quant à la question générale soulevée par M. le Président-Directeur, qui mettrait en discussion les droits et privilèges de la Compagnie en temps de guerre, il a été démontré que ni le Khédive en accordant les Concessions et Conventions, ni le Sultan en les ratifiant, n'a créé pour le Canal la neutralité absolue revendiquée par M. de Lesseps.

Il est à remarquer, cependant, à ce propos, que la déclaration par une seule Puissance de la neutralité d'un point de son territoire ne constitue aucune obligation pour les autres Puissances.

La neutralité d'un territoire ne peut être que la conséquence d'un acte international accepté par les Puissances comme règle de leurs opérations en temps de guerre.

Aucun acte de cette nature concernant le Canal de Suez n'a été consenti par la Grande-Bretagne jusqu'à ce jour.

Le Gouvernement de la Reine croit donc devoir repousser de la manière la plus formelle les prétentions de M. de Lesseps et du Conseil d'Administration au sujet de la neutralité du Canal.

No. 505.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 30.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 20, 1882.

WE have the honour to report to your Lordship that we last night received from his Excellency Lord Lyons the telegraphic instruction which we were directed to await before making to the Suez Canal Company the notification contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant.

We immediately proceeded to call on M. Charles de Lesseps, but unfortunately we were not then able to see him, as he had gone into the country. On his return after 11 P.M. we presented to him the note of which we inclose a copy, and which was in the terms of your Lordship's instructions to us. As we were directed to make this communication in courteous terms, we thought it more prudent to withhold from the note the warning contained in the last paragraph of your Lordship's despatch; but we did not fail in conversation to point out to M. Charles de Lesseps the duty incumbent on the Directors, especially as representing an Egyptian Company, to support the authority of the legitimate Government of Egypt, and the serious responsibility they would assume if they failed to do so. As regards the particular facilities which it was hoped the Company would give for the passage of the troops, we mentioned:—

1st. The postponement of payment of dues by the transports until after their arrival at Ismaïlia.

2nd. The suspension of the regular traffic during the passage of the transports.

3rd. The provision of pilots.

* Article 4, Concession, 1854

† Article XI, Convention, 1866.

We accompanied our communication with such remarks as we thought calculated to enlist his good-will and assistance; but we did not receive any response.

M. Charles de Lesseps confined himself to the simple statement that he would transmit our communication and request to his father, who had received full powers from the Council of Administration to act in their name and to take all measures that he might deem necessary in the interests of the Company.

That if he were to summon a meeting of the Council, they would certainly take no resolution without referring to the President, and that in view of the lateness of the hour on a Saturday night, and of the imminent arrival of the troops at Port Saïd, no practical advantage would be obtained by calling the Directors together.

The question of compensation to vessels delayed was not raised, as M. Charles de Lesseps confined himself to listening to our observations without admitting the possibility of the traffic being suspended by permission of the Company.

On this question of compensation we shall have the honour to address your Lordship in another despatch.

M. Charles de Lesseps undertook to telegraph immediately to his father our written communication and verbal request, excepting the third point above mentioned regarding pilots, which was, he thought, embraced in the general demand for facilities.

Upon this point we endeavoured to impress on him the danger which might accrue to navigation and to the interests of the Company if the Admiral were compelled to send the vessels through without regular pilots.

In conclusion, we regret to be obliged to report that M. Charles de Lesseps did not hold out any expectation that M. Ferdinand de Lesseps will afford the facilities requested by Her Majesty's Government.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. STOKES.

C. RIVERS WILSON.

EDWD. J. STANDEN.

Inclosure in No. 505.

The British Suez Canal Directors to M. C. de Lesseps.

NOUS avons l'honneur d'adresser à la Compagnie, par ordre de notre Gouvernement, la communication suivante:—

“Par autorité de Son Altesse le Khédive et en alliance avec Sa Majesté le Sultan, le Gouvernement de la Reine a entrepris certaines opérations militaires qui rendront nécessaires le débarquement d'une force sur les bords du Canal.

“Par les Articles IX, X, et XI de la Convention faite entre le Khédive et la Compagnie du Canal de Suez en date du 22 Février, 1866, et ratifiée par le Firman du Sultan en date du 19 Mars, 1866, Son Altesse s'est réservée ses droits exécutifs sur le Canal et ses dépendances. En vertu de ces droits le Khédive a autorisé le Commandant des forces navales de Sa Majesté à Port Saïd d'occuper tels points sur l'Isthme de Suez qu'il jugera utiles pour assurer le libre passage du Canal, la protection des villes et populations voisines, ainsi que la suppression de toute force qui ne reconnaîtrait pas l'autorité de Son Altesse.

“L'Amiral doit en même temps prendre les mesures nécessaires pour déposséder les rebelles du chemin de fer entre Ismaïlia et Suez.

“Pour donner suite à ce mandat les forces navales de Sa Majesté ont occupé la ville de Suez située en dehors du Canal, laquelle était menacée de destruction.

“Jusqu'à présent aucun point du Canal n'a été occupé. Tout en prenant les mesures qui paraissent nécessaires pour assurer la protection de la navigation, le Gouvernement de la Reine a été désireux de s'abstenir autant que le permettait l'urgence des circonstances, de toutes démarches qui tendraient à entraver le service normal du Canal.

“Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté pense que le moment est arrivé où il est devenu nécessaire d'envoyer une force à Ismaïlia pour la protection du Canal et ses abords et pour le rétablissement de l'ordre en Égypte.

“Le nombre des troupes rebelles rassemblées dans le voisinage d'Ismaïlia exige que la force envoyée soit d'une certaine importance.

“Le Gouvernement ne doute point que la Compagnie du Canal de Suez ne s'empresse d'accorder toutes facilités pour le passage par le Canal des transports

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portant les troupes et de leur assurer priorité sur tous autres navires pendant la courte durée du trajet."

No. 506.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 31.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 20, 1882.

WE had the honour to send a telegram this morning through his Excellency Lord Lyons to the following effect:—

We last night communicated to M. Charles de Lesseps a note in terms of your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant, and added a request that transports should pay dues at Ismaïlia, and that the regular traffic should be suspended during the short period necessary.

He answered that M. Ferdinand de Lesseps has full powers to act for the Company; that the Council will not act here, having delegated all powers to him, and that even if they would, a meeting of the Council could not be held in time on account of the urgency of the case.

He therefore telegraphed late last night to his father the full text of our note and our added request. He declined to express any opinion, but he evidently did not expect that his father would meet the wishes of Her Majesty's Government.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. STOKES.
C. RIVERS WILSON.
EDWD. J. STANDEN.

No. 507.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 32.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 20, 1882.

WE had the honour to telegraph to your Lordship this afternoon through his Excellency Lord Lyons to the following effect:—

M. Charles de Lesseps informs Sir John Stokes that his father has telegraphed from Ismaïlia that English Admiral at Suez has stopped all traffic through the Canal from that end, and that he has protested. His telegram was sent at 11 yesterday forenoon.

M. Charles de Lesseps observes that this act of force took place twelve hours before British Directors' communication to him, inviting an agreement with the Company on warlike operations.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. STOKES.
C. RIVERS WILSON.
EDWD. J. STANDEN.

No. 508.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 33.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 20, 1882.

M. CHARLES DE LESSEPS has this afternoon written as follows to Sir John Stokes:—

"Mon père me télégraphie à la date d'hier matin, 11 heures:—

"Amiral Anglais Suez informe Agent Principal Transit qu'en vertu d'instructions de Gouvernement Anglais il interdit l'entrée du Canal jusqu'à nouvel ordre aux navires grands ou petits, y compris les canots de la Compagnie, et qu'au besoin il aura recours à la force pour empêcher toute tentative de contravention à ces ordres. En

outre, Amiral a placé à l'entrée du Canal un canot guerre armé. J'ai protesté contre cet acte de violence et de spoliation."

"Vous remarquerez que ce coup de force, se rapportant précisément à un des points dont vous m'avez entretenu hier soir, a précédé de douze heures la communication que vous m'avez faite, avec Mr. Wilson, par ordre de votre Gouvernement, en vue de tenter un accord avec la Compagnie sur des actes de guerre."

We cannot but perceive that this act of the English Admiral at Suez deprives of any possible chance of success the step which we last night took by your Lordship's orders, and exposes us to an accusation of having acted in bad faith towards the Company, inasmuch, as at least twelve hours before we were trying to get an arrangement from them, the Admiral at Suez had taken possession of that end of the Canal.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. STOKES.
C. RIVERS WILSON.
EDWD. J. STANDEN.

No. 509.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 34.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 20, 1882.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 17th instant on the subject of the Port Saïd Suez telegraph line, and with reference to our despatch No. 16, Political, of the 3rd instant, to report that M. de Lesseps has refused to enter into a Convention with the Eastern Telegraph Company for the connection of the ends of the submarine cables at Port Saïd and Suez, either by the existing air lines of the Canal Company or by a new line to be erected by the Eastern Telegraph Company.

The motives for M. de Lesseps' refusal were not contained in the telegram, but have been sent by post.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. STOKES.
C. RIVERS WILSON.
EDWD. J. STANDEN.

No. 510.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 36.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 20, 1882.

WE have the honour to report, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, that yesterday M. Charles de Lesseps summoned a meeting of the "Conseil Judiciaire" of the Suez Canal Company by directions received from the President, in order to take their opinion on the position of the Company with regard to possible claims against the British Government for losses or expenses incurred by them in consequence of the military operations at that time threatened.

As a member of the Managing Committee, Mr. Standen attended the meeting, and reports on it as follows:—

"The Conseil advanced the three following points:—

"1. The Khedive has no right under the terms of the concessions and Conventions granted to, and concluded with, the Company, to carry out warlike operations on the Canal, where there has been no disturbance calling for such intervention; and, in their opinion, there has been no such disturbance in the present instance.

"2. That supposing a state of things existed that would justify such an exercise of his rights, he could not delegate to another Power the duty of maintaining order, which, according to the Convention, appertains only to the Egyptian Government.

"3. That if the Khedive could delegate this right, he could do so to any Government rather than that of Great Britain, because the latter, in its character of shareholder of the Company, is bound, according to French law, to take no action which will be prejudicial to the interests of the Company.

"Taking these points into consideration, the 'Conseil Judiciaire' were of opinion that the Company would have a legal claim on Her Majesty's Government for any losses or expenses accruing in consequence of the action of the Government."

We shall be able in a day or two to send your Lordship a copy of the opinion pronounced.

We have, &c.
(Signed) J. STOKES.
C. RIVERS WILSON.
EDWD. J. STANDEN.

No. 511.

M. Mancini to M. de Catalani.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by M. de Catalani, August 21.)

(Télégraphique.) Rome, le 20 Août, 1882, 4 h. soir.
CONFORMÉMENT aux délibérations prises par la Conférence au sujet du service naval de surveillance et de police dans le Canal de Suez, je me propose de charger le Commandant du cuirassé "Affondatore," actuellement à Port Saïd, de se mettre en communication avec ses collègues des autres Puissances, afin de concerter en commun les détails pratiques de ce service.

Notre Commandant recevra à cet effet tous les pouvoirs nécessaires, avec réserve cependant d'avoir à en référer au Gouvernement dans les cas qui excéderaient la marche ordinaire du service.

Veillez me télégraphier au plus tôt si le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine est prêt à donner à son Commandant instructions analogues.

No. 512.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21, 8.15 A.M.)

(No. 354.)
(Telegraphic.) Constantinople, August 20, 1882, 11.40 P.M.

IN consequence of the serious remonstrances contained in my letter of this morning to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, he and Assim Pasha at once called on me, apparently with the view of explaining away the further modifications he had introduced in the draft Convention, as transmitted to you yesterday in my telegram No. 350. In the meantime, they have asked me whether Article III implied that the English Commander-in-chief could order about the Turkish troops as he pleased. I said that I did not know what interpretation my Government might put upon it, but that in my private opinion the [meaning] of the Article was negative and not positive. It gave the English Commander-in-Chief the right of putting a veto upon any movements of the Turkish General which did not harmonize with his own plans, but it did not authorize him to compel the Turkish Commander to make strategical movements to which he objected. Their Excellencies have asked me to refer the point to your Lordship.

My impression is that the Porte will yield. I fear, however, that the position of both the Saïds is very shaky, as the Sultan is beginning to suspect that we have bought them. Nelidoff is also working for their dismissal—at least so they imply. It is very important that we try and maintain them in office, as they are both anxious to keep friends with us. With this view, I hope your Lordship will approve of the phraseology I induced them to accept *ad referendum*, and to which I am in hopes they will eventually succeed in obtaining the consent of the Sultan. It fully secures every point contained in the original draft.

If we use cruder expressions, I think they may exasperate the Sultan into dismissing present Prime Minister, which would be a misfortune.

No. 513.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 21.)

(No. 801. Confidential. Ext. 354.)
My Lord,

Therapia, August 20, 1882.

IN consequence of the serious remonstrances contained in my letter of this morning to the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs (a copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith), he and Assim Pasha called on me, apparently with the view of explaining away the further modifications he had proposed in the draft Convention, as transmitted to your Lordship in my despatch No. 796 of yesterday's date. In the meantime, they have asked me whether Article III implied that the English Commander-in-chief could order about the Turkish troops as he pleased. I said that I did not know what interpretation my Government might put upon it, but that in my private opinion the effect of the Article was negative and not positive. It gave the English Commander the right of putting a veto upon any movements of the Turkish General which did not harmonize with his own plans, but it did not authorize him to compel the Turkish Commander to make any movement to which he objected. Their Excellencies have asked me to refer the point to your Lordship.

My impression is that the Porte will yield. I fear, however, that the position of both the Saïds is very shaky, as the Sultan is beginning to suspect that we have bought them. M. Nelidoff is also working for their dismissal, at least so they imply. It is very important that we should try and maintain them in office, as they are both anxious to keep friends with us. With this view, I hope your Lordship will be able to approve of the phraseology I induced them to accept *ad referendum*, and to which I am in hopes they will eventually succeed in obtaining the consent of the Sultan. It fully secures every point contained in the original draft, and if we use cruder expressions they may exasperate the Sultan into dismissing his present Prime Minister, which would be a misfortune.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 513.

The Earl of Dufferin to Saïd Pasha.

Excellence,

Therapia, August 19, 1882.

I WAS very sorry that you had the trouble of coming all the way to Therapia, and still more that I should not have been fortunate enough to be at home to see you. You are good enough to suggest a meeting to-morrow, but I regret to say that the further modifications you propose in the Convention are of a nature which my instructions do not permit me to discuss. Under these circumstances, it would be a mere waste of your valuable time were I to intrude upon you. I regret to *constater* that, in spite of my renewed and repeated representations, the Porte has declined to instruct the Governor-General of Smyrna to cancel the prohibition he has laid on the exportation of the mules to Egypt which have been bought by Her Majesty's Government. I apprehend that this is both an illegal act and a contravention of our Treaty rights on the part of the Smyrna authorities. Even if it were not so, I am instructed to inform you that my Government considers it as an exhibition of great unfriendliness by the Ottoman Government, and I do not think you will find it calculated to promote the settlement of any of the pending questions between us. If the legal view we take of the case prove correct, Her Majesty's Government will certainly demand pecuniary compensation at the hands of the Porte for the full amount of the loss which has been sustained.

I have further the honour to inform your Excellency that in view of the foregoing circumstances and of the continued delay which has taken place in communicating to me officially the Proclamation which we have so repeatedly asked for, I must beg you to consider as void and *non avenues* whatever friendly assurances and expressions of confidence in relation to the Egyptian question I may have addressed to you outside of the Conference.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 514.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 404.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 21, 1882, 10:30 A.M.

FOLLOWING telegram from Sir Garnet Wolseley, dated Kantara, to-day:—
 "Reached Port Saïd yesterday morning. Found, in compliance with orders previously issued, that all commercial traffic was stopped, and Port Saïd, Kantara, and Ismaïlia successfully occupied by navy at daybreak, and telegraph seized at Ismaïlia. Small skirmish had taken place, and enemy bombarded in his camp at Nefiche. Hope that Serapeum may be occupied by troops from Suez to-day. Owing to block in Canal, have been delayed, or should have been at Ismaïlia last night."

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 515.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(Telegraphic.)

Walmer Castle, August 21, 1882, 11 A.M.

YOURS No. 352.

Entirely approve your action.

If permission to export is still delayed, use strong language as to effect on our relations.

No. 516.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(Telegraphic.)

Walmer Castle, August 21, 1882, 1:30 P.M.

YOUR No. 353.

You may use any threat you think advisable short of saying that you will immediately break off relations. This last is what Secretary of State for War wishes you to do, but it would be inconvenient in other ways.

No. 517.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(Telegraphic.)

Walmer Castle, August 21, 1882, 1:30 P.M.

YOUR No. 354.

Your interpretation of Article III of Military Convention is correct, and your proceedings are approved.

No. 518.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21, 6:45 P.M.)

(No. 355.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 21, 1882, 12:30 P.M.

YOUR telegram of 20th August from Walmer.

I imagine Count Kálnoky must mean the formula referred to in my telegram No. 346, which has recently been [? floating] about the four Embassies. Baron Calice showed it to me one day, and asked me whether I thought it would be objected to by my Government if the Continental Powers desired to insert it in the Protocol of Adjournment. I replied, in the words of your telegram No. 455, that Her Majesty's Government would probably be prepared, when the military ends in view had been obtained, to invite the aid of the other Powers to make provision for the future security and good government of Egypt, which seemed perfectly to satisfy my Austrian colleague. I then telegraphed to your Lordship the exact words of the formula which Baron Calice had submitted to me, asking for instructions, and I have now received

your telegram No. 535, authorizing me, if I think it necessary, to assent to the formula in question, but to substitute "consultation" for "co-operation."

No. 519.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 21.)

(No. 803. Confidential. Ext. 355.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 21, 1882.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, dated from Walmer, it appears to me that Count Kálnoky means the formula to be inserted in the Protocol of Adjournment of the Egyptian Conference, referred to in my despatch No. 789 of the 17th instant, which has been lately floating about the four Embassies. The Austrian Ambassador showed it me one day, and asked me whether I thought that Her Majesty's Government would object if the Continental Powers wished to insert it in the Protocol.

I replied in the words of your Lordship's telegram No. 455 of the 29th July last, that Her Majesty's Government would probably be prepared, when the military objects in view had been attained, to invite the aid of the other Powers to make provision for the future security and good government of Egypt; which seemed perfectly to satisfy Baron Calice. I then telegraphed to your Lordship the exact words of the formula which his Excellency had communicated to me, asking for instructions; and I have now received your telegram No. 535 of the 18th instant, authorizing me, if I think necessary, to assent to the formula in question, but to substitute "consultation" for "coopération."

I have, &c.
 (Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 520.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21, 2:45 P.M.)

(No. 356.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 21, 1882, 12:45 P.M.

SENT to Admiral:—

"Austrian Lloyd's steamer 'Calypso' left Constantinople night of 19th for Red Sea by Smyrna, with pilgrims and 130 recruits for Arabian army corps.

"Mahsouse Company's ship 'Batoum' leaves to-day for Tripoli, Africa, with a few recruits and commissariat stores. Will probably touch at Crete."

No. 521.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 21, 3:45 P.M.)

(No. 405.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 21, 1882, 1:30 P.M.

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 426 of the 16th instant.

I have received a note, dated to-day, from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, stating that the Eastern Telegraph Company is authorized to lay a land line from Port Saïd to Suez, the concession to terminate at the same date as the Suez Canal concession.

The answer has been delayed through the change of Ministry.

No. 522.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 21.)

(No. 552. Ext. 405.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 21, 1882.

ON receipt of your Lordship's telegram of the 16th instant I made a fresh application to the Egyptian Government, with a view to obtaining the requisite

permission for laying a telegraph line overland along the Suez Canal, and I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have this day received a note from the Egyptian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith, stating that the Eastern Telegraph Company is authorized to lay a telegraph line from Port Saïd to Suez overland, and that this Concession is to terminate at the same date as the Suez Canal Concession.

Some delay in the transmission of this answer has arisen in consequence of the recent change of Ministry.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 522.

Tigrane Bey to Sir E. Malet.

M. le Ministre, *Alexandrie, le 21 Août, 1882.*
EN réponse à la lettre qui a été adressée à Mr. Cartwright le 8 de ce mois relativement à la demande d'autorisation pour l'Eastern Telegraph Company d'établir une nouvelle voie de communication télégraphique entre Port Saïd et Suez, vous voulez bien m'informer, par dépêche du 18 courant, que cette demande avait pour objet, non la pose d'un câble sous-marin, mais l'établissement d'une ligne sur terre.

Au nom de la dite Compagnie, vous exprimez aussi le désir, M. le Ministre, que cette Concession ait la même durée que celle dont jouit la Compagnie du Canal de Suez, avec laquelle l'Eastern Telegraph Company a déjà pris les arrangements nécessaires.

J'ai, en conséquence, l'honneur de vous informer, M. le Ministre, que le Gouvernement de Son Altesse consent à la modification mentionnée dans votre dépêche du 18 courant; la nouvelle voie télégraphique pourra donc être établie sur terre, toutes les clauses et conditions indiquées dans la lettre du 8 de ce mois étant maintenues.

En ce qui concerne la durée de la Concession, le Gouvernement Égyptien consent également à ce qu'elle soit la même que celle dont bénéficie la Compagnie du Canal de Suez.

Veuillez, &c.
Le Sous-Secrétaire d'État,
(Signé) TIGRANE.

No. 523.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 430.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, August 21, 1882, 5 P.M.*

YOUR telegram No. 400 of 19th instant.

Following reply has been sent to Prince Ibrahim Hilmy:—

"After communication with Egypt, Her Majesty's Government regret that they are unable to accept the offer of your Highness' services with the army."

No. 524.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 431.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, August 21, 1882, 5:30 P.M.*

YOUR telegram No. 403 of 19th.

Admiralty have no objection to Lord Charles Beresford accepting appointment on the Staff of the Khedive.

No. 525.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 536.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, August 21, 1882, 5:30 P.M.*
YOUR Nos. 350 and 351.
Her Majesty's Government entirely approve.

No. 526.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 512. Ext. 536.) *Foreign Office, August 21, 1882.*
My Lord,
I HAVE received your Excellency's telegrams Nos. 350 and 351 of the 19th instant, reporting your further negotiations with Saïd and Assim Pasha with regard to the different Articles of the proposed Military Convention, and I have to state that your Excellency's proceedings, as therein reported, have the entire approval of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 526.*

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 581.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, August 21, 1882, 5:55 P.M.*
ADMIRAL telegraphs that he will be able to arrange with Canal Company on terms that it is not responsible for demands made by mercantile community in consequence of precedence given to our transports.

No. 527.

Sir R. Thompson to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 21.)

(Confidential.)
My Lord, *War Office, August 21, 1882.*
I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Granville, the inclosed copies of a telegram which has been dispatched to the General Commander-in-chief of the Expeditionary Force in Egypt, authorizing him to treat Arabi's rebels according to recognized rules of civilized warfare, including the exchange of prisoners.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RALPH THOMPSON.

Inclosure in No. 527.

Mr. Childers to General Sir G. Wolseley.

(Telegraphic.) *War Office, August 18, 1882.*
THOUGH occasion has not arisen for settling question of belligerent rights, you are authorized to treat Arabi's rebels according to recognized rules of civilized warfare, including exchange of prisoners.

No. 528.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 288.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 21, 1882.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith copies of two despatches to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid* relating the substance of communications which have passed between the Spanish Minister at this Court and me with regard to the claim of Spain to take part in any general measures for the protection of the Suez Canal.

I shall be obliged by your informing the Italian Government of the contents of these despatches.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 529.

M. Mancini to M. Catalani.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by M. Catalani, August 22.)

(Télégraphique.)

Rome, le 21 Août, 1882, 3 h. 45 m. du soir.

LE Ministre de Portugal est venu me déclarer officiellement au nom de son Gouvernement que le Portugal est prêt à contribuer dans les limites de ses moyens à la sécurité du Canal de Suez, si l'Europe le juge nécessaire ou convenable.

J'ai répondu à M. Carvalho que si les autres Cabinets étaient d'accord sur l'opportunité du concours du Portugal dans ce service, nous serions pour notre part tout à fait disposés à en profiter.

Veuillez me faire connaître quel est là-dessus l'avis du Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité.

No. 530.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 22, 1:15 P.M.)

(No. 406.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 22, 1882, noon.

FOLLOWING from Sir G. Wolseley, dated Ismailia, last night:—

"Ismailia occupied yesterday (Sunday) morning, by navy; no opposition. I arrived here this morning about 9 o'clock. General Graham took possession of Nefiche Junction at 10 o'clock; no enemy to be seen. Have saved enough carriages to make train, but no engine. The troops are landing as fast as they can."

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 531.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 22, 4:30 P.M.)

(No. 357.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 22, 1882, noon.

THE Sultan sent Aleko Pasha to me early this morning to talk over the Egyptian question. Aleko is in high favour, and the Sultan has presented him with an Order in brilliants. The message he brought was indefinite, but his Excellency told me that the Sultan seemed very anxious now to come to an understanding with us, if only he could get the Convention settled upon terms which did not compromise his personal dignity. I explained the whole case to Aleko. His Excellency said that, in his opinion, the conditions were not only acceptable, but under the circumstances very favourable to the Sultan. He had already told His Majesty that it was madness for him not to enter into the closest friendship with us, as we were the only nation which was really interested in his welfare. He promised to repeat these arguments, and to do everything in his power to induce the Sultan to accept our proposals.

* Nos. 45 and 488.

I also spoke to Aleko about the mules, and let him understand upon what a precipice the Sultan stood, and that it was a question of hours whether I should not break off relations.

Aleko's visit looks as if the Sultan was upon the point of yielding, but he says the Sultan is persuaded we have already suffered severe reverses in Egypt. His Excellency begged me not to allow his name to appear in connection with this affair.

No. 532.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 22.)

(No. 815. Confidential. Ext. 357.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 22, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Sultan sent Aleko Pasha to me early this morning to talk over the Egyptian question. His Excellency is in high favour, and the Sultan has presented him with an Order in brilliants. The message he brought was indefinite; but his Excellency told me that the Sultan seemed now very anxious to come to an understanding with us, if only he could get the Convention settled upon terms which did not compromise his personal dignity. I explained the whole case to Aleko Pasha. His Excellency said that, in his opinion, the conditions were not only acceptable, but, under the circumstances, very favourable to the Sultan. He had already told His Majesty that it was madness for him not to enter into the closest friendship with us, as we were the only nation which was really interested in his welfare. He promised to repeat these arguments, and to do everything in his power to induce the Sultan to accept our proposals.

I also spoke to Aleko Pasha about the mules, and let him understand upon the brink of what a precipice the Sultan stood, and that it was a question of hours whether I should not break off relations.

Aleko Pasha's visit looks as if the Sultan was on the point of yielding; but he says that His Majesty is persuaded that we have already suffered severe reverses in Egypt.

His Excellency begged me not to allow his name to appear in connection with this affair.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 533.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 22, 2:10 P.M.)

(No. 407.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 22, 1882, 12:15 P.M.

FOLLOWING telegram from Sir Garnet Wolseley, dated Ismailia, last night:—

"I have seen M. de Lesseps, who is now very civil. He has received a telegram from Paris this morning, which, perhaps, accounts for his civility. He now promises to work Canal, giving priority to all our transports, on the understanding that Canal Company undertakes no responsibility thereby. Even under these conditions, Canal will not be free for ordinary traffic for some days. Enemy is, no doubt, collecting a considerable force at Tel-el-Kebir, about 30 miles from here, where I believe he means to fight."

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 534.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 22.)

(No. 557. Ext. 407.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 22, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report that I have this day received a telegram from General Sir Garnet Wolseley, stating that he has had an interview with M. de Lesseps, who showed the greatest civility in his conversation, a course which Sir

Garnet conceives may be attributed to a telegram received by him yesterday morning from Paris.

M. de Lesseps promised to resume working the Canal and to give priority to English transports, on the understanding that no responsibility is thereby incurred by the Canal Company. Even under these circumstances, ordinary traffic through the Canal must be delayed for some days.

General Wolseley adds that the rebellious army is, he believes, collecting in considerable force at Tel-el-Kebir, about 30 miles from Ismaïlia, where it is no doubt intended to make a stand.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 535.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 22, 2:30 P.M.)

(No. 408.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 22, 1882, 12:30 P.M.

GENERAL WOLSELEY telegraphs last night, from Ismaïlia, that Abdul Razak Nazmi, of the État-Major, has surrendered, with two other officers. They say they are loyal to Khedive, and wish to go to Alexandria. General proposes to send them here if Khedive approves. Khedive has approved.

No. 536.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 22, 2:30 P.M.)

(No. 409.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 22, 1882, 12:40 P.M.

THE Khedive and Chérif wish to name Haidar Pasha Minister of Finance. I should like very much to have Sir A. Colvin's opinion on the matter.

No. 537.

Earl Granville to M. Catalani.

Dear M. Catalani,

Walmer, August 22, 1882.

SIR C. DILKE has forwarded to me the communication from your Government stating, that in conformity with the deliberations of the Conference on the subject of the naval service of surveillance and police in the Suez Canal, the Commander of His Italian Majesty's vessel "Affondatore" will be instructed to place himself in communication with the Naval Commanders of other Powers, in order to concert the practical details of this service, and inquiring whether Her Majesty's Government are ready to give similar instructions to the British Naval Commanders.

In reply, I beg to inform you that the Admiralty will instruct the British Naval Officer in command to place himself in communication with the Commander of the "Affondatore" on the subject.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 538.

Lord Tenterden to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 22, 1882.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copy of a telegram from M. Mancini respecting the police protection of the Suez Canal,* which was communicated to Lord Granville by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires on the 21st instant, together with copy of the reply which

* No. 511.

his Lordship has returned to this communication;* and I am to request that if their Lordships concur, instructions may be sent accordingly to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

I am, &c.
(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 539.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 22, 8 P.M.)

(No. 410.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 22, 1882, 7:30 P.M.

YESTERDAY the Austrian gun-boat "Nautilus," seeing the white flag at Aboukir, sent off a boat containing the Doctor, a Lieutenant, a Midshipman, a warrant officer, and eight sailors. They have all been detained as prisoners.

No. 540.

Acting Consul Moncrieff to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 12. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Jeddah, August 2, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, the copy of a despatch, and of one inclosure, addressed by me to Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General in Egypt, relating to the arrival at Suakin of Her Majesty's ship "Seagull," in order to remove British subjects, if necessary, and containing remarks on the condition of Jeddah.

I trust that it will meet with your Lordship's approval if, on considering it advisable, I shortly return to Suakin. Though the number of British subjects is so small, it seems to me worth while to take some trouble to preserve their good relations with the authorities and the inhabitants, and, as there is no other European official there, I have been able, without at all overstepping my duties, or being on any but the most friendly terms with the authorities, to be of some service to other Europeans, as well as to Christian Syrians and Copts.

I shall, of course, govern my movements by what is essential to the superior importance of this post.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYNEDOC N. MONCRIEFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 540.

Acting Consul Moncrieff to Mr. Cartwright.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Jeddah, August 1, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your information, the copy of a letter I have addressed to Commander Byles, R.N., relative to his arrival at Suakin for the purpose of removing British subjects if in danger at that port.

I would add that it seemed to me unnecessary to do more than give those who disliked their situation sufficiently to leave a place where their interests are such as to make it worth while to run some slight risk the opportunity of doing so if they chose. I could not advise their leaving. No Greeks left in the "Perculum," as they changed their minds at the last moment, partly, I think, on my representations, and because they found they could not realize their property in time. When Mr. Bewley's steamer arrives at Suakin I apprehend that the situation will be more defined, and that all the Europeans may elect to remain, or, if they go away, have better reasons for doing so.

Suakin promises, under favourable circumstances, to become a very flourishing port, and its abandonment in fear of outrage, which I am confident rests at present almost entirely in the imagination of the Europeans themselves, would do much to retard its development and make future relations difficult.

The arrival of the "Seagull" had a good effect, and I have every confidence that

† No. 537.

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the Governor of Suakin (who no longer talked about obeying the strongest man) and the Commandant can and will prevent any outbreak of the soldiers as long as they feel that Arabi Pasha is unlikely to have the success which, in their hearts, they wish him. The Commandant, during the interview alluded to in the inclosure, honestly said that he and all the soldiers loved Arabi, while pledging himself that he and they would be loyal to the Khedive in act. There is, as a fact, in Suakin, no loyalty whatever in feeling towards His Highness. He is simply, it is considered, one Pasha, while Arabi is another, apparently stronger. The question of legality is entirely unappreciated as regards His Highness' rights, and expediency is everything in the eyes of every Egyptian in the place. They are all, however, nervous about the Soudanis, who dislike their rule, and would get rid of it if they were a fighting race. Any commotion, the authorities know, might excite them sufficiently to rebel.

Though the number of British subjects is small, it will, in the natural course of things, be soon increased. Except that the Greeks count as Europeans and Christians, and their flight on a scare might therefore do some harm, they could well be spared, and if, as is probable, they shortly leave so clear of the place, having all their goods or their value, as not to return, and the British subjects stand fast, I believe there will be a better opening for the latter.

One of the principal reasons why I deprecated the start of the Greeks was the bad effect their arrival in the "Perculum" as refugees would have had here, and I was glad for this reason chiefly that they at the last moment elected to stay.

I am happy to have found altogether less uneasiness amongst Europeans in Jeddah than on my last visit. The arrival of the "Seagull" has done good here also, and if she or any other of Her Majesty's vessels can be quite conveniently spared from other duties, another casual visit will be useful. Nothing can be better than a quiet display of force. There are a few rather influential people in this town who delight in the idea that England is inefficient to perform her task, and who welcome and encourage the belief in many false reports that are sent out from Egypt, such as that British ships have been sunk by Egyptian batteries, and that a serious defeat of our troops has occurred at Kafr-Dowar. A paper lately arrived, a number of which I inclose, with an appeal to Mussulmans for the Jihad. This gives a very pleasing excitement to the people above mentioned and a few of the lower classes. Nothing is required to prevent any bad effects but the evident success of our arms, and meantime, should such from any cause be delayed, a reminder that Jeddah is at the mercy of a man-of-war. It is much more, however, in order that the faith of the Arabs in England's power may not be weakened than on account of any actual danger that the visit of a man-of-war is desirable.

With regard to Arabian papers from Egypt such as I have mentioned, M. Kuddzi, while I was absent in Suakin, very sensibly obtained their future seizure at the Post Office.

I am writing to the Senior Naval Officer at Suez to beg him to prevent, if possible, their departure from there.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYNEDOCH N. MONCRIEFF.

Inclosure 2 in No. 540.

Acting Consul Moncrieff to Commander Byles.

(Confidential.)
Sir,

Suakin, July 29, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of yesterday, informing me that you had arrived for the purpose of removing to Aden British subjects and myself if in danger, and to inform you that I have conveyed to the British subjects (one English merchant and seven Banians) your offer to have them taken away to-morrow in the steam-ship "Perculum," which accompanies you.

The Banians do not wish to abandon their affairs in Suakin, but prefer running whatever slight risk there may be, and remaining for the present. Mr. Bewley (the Englishman) will, however, proceed in the "Perculum" to Aden, for the purpose of freighting a steamer, with which he will return here, to take the merchandize and moveable property of any one who shall desire to send it away, and also any Europeans who, unwilling to stand the losses consequent on an immediate departure in a ship which cannot possibly carry their goods, shall then be of opinion that it is too dangerous to remain.

There are, however, twenty-seven Greeks who have requested me to move you to grant them a passage in the "Perculum."

In my opinion, they would best consult the general interest and their own by at least remaining for the arrival of the steamer of Mr. Bewley, when the situation may be clearer, and up to which time I consider them in reasonable safety. As, however, they do not think so, but are most urgent in their request, seeming exceedingly alarmed, I would suggest that, if you think fit, they be permitted to embark.

I would here refer to the various conversations I have had the pleasure of holding with yourself and Mr. Laurence, Political Officer from Aden, and record my opinion that at present European life runs very little risk in Suakin.

That further events may change this it is impossible to deny, but at least I see no good reason to believe that the good understanding hitherto existing between the natives and Europeans has been disturbed, and his Excellency the Governor and his Assistant, who is also Commandant, have given us the most solemn assurances of their will and power to preserve peace, while they have pledged themselves to obey no orders from Arabi Pasha, but to be loyal to His Highness the Khedive.

These assurances have not been given by them without full knowledge of the responsibilities undertaken, and the probable consequences to themselves and the town, should anything untoward happen.

I shall proceed to Jeddah in the "Perculum," in order to confer with you on the situation at that port.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYNEDOCH N. MONCRIEFF.

No. 541.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 533.)

Alexandria, August 15, 1882.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of an account given to me by Mr. Cornish, Manager of the Alexandria Waterworks, of the events of the 12th and 13th ultimo, as seen by him from his offices, situated immediately beyond the walls of Alexandria, in which he had remained during the whole of the bombardment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 541.

Note on the Retreat of the Egyptian Troops from Alexandria on July 12, 1882, the second day of the Bombardment, as seen from the Waterworks outside the Rosetta Gate.

THE first troops we noticed leaving the town marched out of the Rosetta Gate at 11.15 A.M., or about three-quarters-of-an-hour after the first gun fired. They followed the Rosetta road in the direction of the Ramlah Palace. The first 500 marched in fours in good order, and they were followed by about 1,500 more, in gradually increasing disorder, until they became confused with the rabble who crowded the roads. Up to about 2 P.M. we did not notice any plunder being carried out of the town, either by soldiers or by the crowd, but the troops who came out after that time were nearly all heavily laden with spoil.

From 2 P.M. to 5 P.M. we noticed several trains passing out from the Moharrem Bey Station. The carriages were crammed with people, both inside, on the steps, and on the roofs; even the buffers were crowded. We watched several of the trains with a telescope. They appeared to contain only men, dressed in the ordinary native "galibezeh," or gown. I have since heard they were soldiers, and I think it very probable.

About 4 P.M. we noticed several soldiers returning into the town, and the struggle to force their way towards the Rosetta Gate against the stream of the crowd pouring out from it was intense. Many people carrying bundles were upset, and a large number of soldiers, finding it too difficult to get back into the town, contented themselves with seizing the loads of others who were coming out. As dusk came on it would be difficult to imagine a more fiendish scene. The large open space between

our works and the cemeteries was crowded, chiefly with soldiers, who were undressing themselves, and wrapping round their limbs all sorts of rich stuffs; of silks and satins torn from divans and chairs. Some had brought gilt sofas as far as this, but finding them too cumbersome broke them to pieces, and took only the coverings. About 4 P.M. we noticed several fires in the town, and by 11 at night many of them had joined, making the largest conflagration I had ever witnessed, the flames at times lighting up the whole landscape, so that we could recognize all the prominent buildings in the town by their lurid glare.

Soon after dark the stampede from the town ceased, and we were left in comparative quiet. Between 4 P.M. and 5 P.M. some of our people saw a carriage driving out of the Rosetta Gate, surrounded by a cavalry escort, and we concluded that it was probably Arabi Pasha.

From about 10 A.M. until night field-pieces and other guns—in all about 100—were being taken past our pumping-station at the Feska, on the banks of the Mahmoudieh Canal; and at 4 P.M. the engines at that station were forcibly stopped by the soldiers carrying ammunition and powder, and they would not allow us to start them again until the following morning.

By the evening all the soldiers must have left the town, as we did not see any with the rabble going out on the following morning.

(Signed) F. S. CORNISH.

Alexandria Water Company, Alexandria.

No. 542.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 535.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 15, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copies of two despatches which have been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Acting Consul for the Somali Coast, inclosing extracts from letters written to him by the British correspondent at Berbera. From the first of these letters, it appears that the Egyptian soldiery in that district were in a state of great demoralization and panic, but that order was still maintained.

The second letter, dated the 29th July, states that Nadi Pasha was expected at Berbera, to take command of the garrison in the name of Arabi Pasha; but Captain Leahy, in transmitting this report, gives his opinion that though it is true that Nadi Pasha is a great friend of Arabi, yet it is not considered likely that his project of going to Berbera will be carried out.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 542.

Acting Consul Leahy to Sir E. Malet.

Sir,

Aden, July 25, 1882.

IN continuation of my letter of the 20th instant, I have the honour to forward extract from a letter from our correspondent at Berbera, from which it appears that while the British subjects show no signs of fear, the Egyptian troops seem uneasy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. LEAHY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 542.

Extract of a Letter from the British Correspondent at Berbera, dated July 20, 1882.

ON the 16th July I secretly sent a man to bring news about Fashad Bey and his companions. When he came back, he said that he had learnt from Fashad Bey's Secretary, named Hussein Effendi, that an order was received by the Bey from the Minister of War, Addul Kadur Pasha, that all the Zaila contingent of soldiers should be collected in one place if they are scattered in different places, and that the same

thing should be done in Berbera. When I saw the soldiers in the town and the fort going to Shaab and assembling in one place I thought that there was something up, and so I made the above inquiries.

The said Hussein Effendi said that an order was received by Fashad Bey that he should write to Nadi Pasha at Harar to send two "artatain" (regiments) containing 1,600 men, and to come personally to Berbera. He also said that 10 large cannons and 1,500 boxes of shot for the same were coming for Berbera, Zaila, Massowah, and Sowakim, and that of the 10 cannons 5 would be kept at Berbera and 5 at Zaila. On the 16th instant I went to the Bey, when he asked me to go with him to see the soldiers. He then spoke to me that he had received an order to drill the soldiers. I told him that the practice of such thing was good. Then we went to the Soudan soldiers, who, when they saw the Bey, told him that, as this was the month of Ramazan, they could not drill. On hearing this the Bey remained quiet, and did not answer them in my presence. God knows if he spoke to them afterwards in my absence. All of them (Egyptians) living at Berbera are in great fear. Formerly they (the Egyptians) kept a guard of eighteen soldiers to look after the town at night, and now for the same purpose they keep forty men and two officers. This has commenced from the 16th July. Although they have fortified the country with soldiers and cannons, &c., they fear very much.

Inclosure 3 in No. 542.

Acting Consul Leahy to Sir E. Malet.

Aden, August 2, 1882.

Sir,

IN continuation of my letter of the 25th July, I have the honour to forward an extract from our Berbera correspondent's letter, dated the 29th ultimo.

2. From inquiries made on board the Egyptian despatch steamer "Zagazig," in Aden Harbour, it appears that Nadi Pasha is really a great friend of Arabi Pasha, but that his going to Berbera is not considered likely, Zaila and Berbera having been removed from his supervision a year ago.

3. Though it is satisfactory to learn that the receipt of my letter of the 20th July last by Fashad Bey, the Governor of Berbera, appears to have had a quieting effect, no letter from Fashad Bey has reached me in reply to mine.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. W. H. LEAHY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 542.

Extract from a Letter from the British Correspondent at Berbera, dated July 29, 1882.

WE inform your Excellency that Nadi Pasha, who is in Harar, is coming to Berbera via land. The said Nadi Pasha is of the party of Arabi Pasha, and a near relative to him, and they are both like brothers. It is said that they in previous time had raised a disturbance against the ex-Khedive. They both served in one regiment. As the said Nadi Pasha is proud and heady, I am afraid he may do us British subjects something on his arrival, as every one is at liberty in his country.

I like to inform you of this, because, according to the extent of his pride and arrogance, he might do something to us. This is my opinion; but afterwards, God knows

On our return we were met by the Bey, who inquired about Dolut Khan and his purpose for coming here. I told him he is a meat contractor, to supply meat to the soldiers at Aden. He (the Bey) then highly respected him, and informed me that he had received a friendly letter from you, by which he was highly pleased. I then told him, "I bless God to make you happy and comfortable." We inform you that when he (the Bey) received the letter, he and all others became at ease; before that, they were very much afraid and disturbed.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 541.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of the Proclamations issued by the Khedive with regard to operations in the Suez Canal, and to the importation of coal at Damietta.

The text of these Proclamations has already been telegraphed to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 543.

Proclamation.

NOUS, Khédive d'Égypte,
Faisons savoir aux autorités civiles et militaires de l'Isthme de Suez que l'Amiral et le Commandant-en-chef des forces de Sa Majesté Britannique chargés de rétablir l'ordre en Égypte sont autorisés à occuper tous les points qu'ils jugeront utiles pour les opérations militaires à entreprendre contre les rebelles.

Invitons les dites autorités à porter le présent Ordre à la connaissance de tous les habitants de l'Isthme et particulièrement des agents et employés du Canal Maritime.

Faisons savoir, en outre, à tous, que toute opposition au présent Ordre constituera une violation de notre volonté Khédiviale et exposera les contrevenants aux conséquences les plus graves.

Fait au Palais de Ras-el-Tin, le 14 Août, 1882.
(Signé) MÉHÉMET TEWFIK.

Inclosure 2 in No. 543.

Proclamation.

NOUS, Khédive d'Égypte,
Autorisons l'Amiral Commandant-en-chef des forces maritimes de Sa Majesté Britannique dans la Méditerranée, ainsi que tous les officiers agissant sous ses ordres, à prendre les mesures qu'ils jugeront utiles pour empêcher l'importation du charbon et des munitions de guerre sur toute l'étendue du littoral de Damiette et de Rosette, compris entre Port Saïd et Alexandrie.

Toute contravention au présent Ordre emportera la saisie des Articles prohibés.

Fait au Palais de Ras-el-Tin, le 14 Août, 1882.
(Signé) MÉHÉMET TEWFIK.

No. 544.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 542.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of the letters which have been received from the foreign Consuls-General with regard to the return of the refugees and the exclusion of bad characters from Alexandria, in reply to the note which was forwarded to your Lordship in Mr. Cartwright's despatch No. 522, Political, of the 9th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 544.

M. de Martino to Mr. Cartwright.

Consulat-Général d'Italie, Alexandrie, le 10 Août, 1882.

M. le Gérant,

EN réponse à la communication que vous m'avez adressé en date d'hier, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer qu'à la réception de votre première note du 28 Juillet, reconnaissant les justes préoccupations des autorités compétentes sur un retour précipité des émigrants en cette ville, je me suis fait un devoir de les soumettre à mon Gouvernement, en y appelant toute sa sérieuse attention.

Il est à ma connaissance que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté a pris toutes les mesures qui sont en son pouvoir, pour leur dénoncer tous les dangers auxquels ils s'exposeraient, et en leur refusant toutes facilitations de voyage pour rentrer.

Je m'empresse, pourtant, M. le Gérant, de lui transmettre une copie de la note que vous venez de m'adresser, en sollicitant un redoublement de mesures préventives.

Étant d'un intérêt général d'empêcher le retour d'individus malfamés, les Consuls de Sa Majesté prêteront dans ce but tout leur concours à la police Européenne.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) DE MARTINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 544.

M. Suzzara to Mr. Cartwright.

Consulat-Général d'Autriche-Hongrie, Alexandrie, le 10 Août, 1882.

M. le Gérant,

AU moment même où la possibilité d'un manque d'eau en cette ville s'était manifestée pour la première fois, je m'étais empressé d'en informer mon Gouvernement, afin que tous ceux qui seraient intentionnés de faire retour en Égypte en fussent avisés.

Toutefois, partageant complètement les nouvelles réflexions que vous avez bien voulu me communiquer par votre note d'hier, je n'ai pas manqué de m'adresser par voie télégraphique à la Direction de Police de Trieste, à l'effet que le retour en Égypte de la classe ouvrière soit, pour le moment, arrêté autant que possible.

J'ai donné en même temps les ordres nécessaires pour une stricte surveillance des personnes de conduite douteuse qui, heureusement, sont très rares dans cette Colonie.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) SUZZARA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 544.

M. Rangabé to Mr. Cartwright.

Alexandrie, le 12 Août, 1882.

M. le Gérant,

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir la Circulaire que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser en date du 9 de ce mois, et me suis empressé de télégraphier encore une fois à mon Gouvernement pour attirer son attention sur la nécessité de limiter autant que possible le rapatriement des réfugiés Hellènes dans les circonstances actuelles.

J'apprécie également l'importance des précautions destinées à éviter le retour d'individus de mauvaise renommée, et je n'ai pas manqué de m'entendre avec son Excellence le Gouverneur de la ville, relativement aux mesures les plus aptes à assurer le but en question.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) RANGABÉ,
L'Agent et Consul-Général de Grèce.

No. 545.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 545.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 16, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a despatch from Mr. Cartwright respecting the services rendered by Sir A. Colvin during the time that I have been absent from my post. I may add that Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour has confirmed to me in the fullest measure the account given by Mr. Cartwright, and has informed me that the advice and knowledge of Sir Auckland Colvin have been invaluable to him.

Mr. Cartwright speaks in the same despatch of the efficient services of Mr. Ornstein. This gentleman was formerly Private Secretary to Mr. Vivian, and has been since Secretary of the Control, first under Major Baring, and at present under Sir A. Colvin.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 545.

Mr. Cartwright to Sir E. Malet.

Sir,

Alexandria, August 9, 1882.

IN handing over the affairs of Her Majesty's Agency, with which I have been charged during your absence, I cannot refrain from calling your attention to the part taken by Sir Auckland Colvin throughout the difficult circumstances of the past month.

At much personal inconvenience, and in entire disregard of private considerations, Sir A. Colvin has loyally given his services to his country, and has spared no effort to assist and guide me in the discharge of my duties. His advice, and the benefit of his influence and knowledge of the country, have at all times been freely offered to myself and to others in the service of Her Majesty's Government, and I feel that without his assistance it would have been impossible for me to carry on satisfactorily the work with which I was intrusted.

His Secretary, Mr. Ornstein, has also been indefatigable at his post in the Palace, where he has been lodged ever since the bombardment; and, besides being of the greatest use to Sir A. Colvin and myself, he has readily helped to facilitate the constant communications between the Egyptian authorities and Her Majesty's naval and military officers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. C. CARTWRIGHT.

No. 546.

(No. 546.)

My Lord,

*Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)**Naples, August 16, 1882.*

JUST before my leaving M. Mancini yesterday his Excellency begged me very earnestly to assure your Lordship of the sincere good wishes of the Italian Government for the speedy and complete success of the operations being undertaken by Her Majesty's Government in Egypt.

The enterprise, his Excellency observed, might possibly prove to be an arduous one, but as to its final issue there could, of course, not be the smallest doubt.

Her Majesty's Government might rely, he said, upon the constant friendship of Italy, and be certain that neither now nor when it came to the ultimate arrangements for the future of Egypt would the Italian Government create any obstacles or raise any difficulties in the realization of the programme which Her Majesty's Government had set forth.

He had, he added, the most implicit faith in the declarations which had been made by Her Majesty's Government on this subject, and he saw nothing in these declarations which was at variance with the interests of Italy.

His Excellency repeated what he has frequently said before respecting the natural

alliance and friendship between England and Italy, and I promised to report his present good wishes and assurances to your Lordship.

His Excellency's statement that the Italian Government would not create any obstacles or difficulties now was intended, of course, to refer especially to the possible case of the Porte refusing to agree to the Military Convention, and to the measures which might be taken in consequence to prevent Turkish troops landing in Egypt.

M. Mancini, on the present as well as on other occasions, spoke in a way to make this meaning quite clear.

He expressed anxiety to see the negotiations between Her Majesty's Government and the Porte result in an amicable arrangement, and he told me that Count Corti had been instructed to do what he could—and from his long residence at Constantinople he had many ways of getting to the ear of the Sultan—to bring about this conclusion. But, speaking of the case of an amicable agreement not being arrived at, the sense which M. Mancini evidently wished to impart to his words was that Her Majesty's Government might count, for the least, upon a benevolent attitude on the part of the Italian Government; adding that, before discussing further future possible contingencies, it was necessary to allow time for the "situation matérielle de se développer."

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 547.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 547.)

My Lord,

Naples, August 17, 1882.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 271 of the 11th instant, inclosing a copy of a *note verbale* from the Portuguese Minister referring to a proposal supposed to have originated with the Italian Government, and to have been under the consideration of the Conference, for the nomination of a Commission to be charged with all matters concerning the safety of the Suez Canal, and in which Commission it is further stated that Spain and Holland were to be included, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that in an interview which I had the day before yesterday with M. Mancini, his Excellency disclaimed having taken any initiative in regard to the matter in question.

The Spanish Minister, his Excellency informed me, had come to him while he was in negotiation with the other Powers relative to the proposal to be made to the Conference as to the measures for the protection of the Suez Canal, to assert the claim of his Government to be associated in such measures, and to request him, as the originator of the proposal about to be made, to bring the claim of Spain before the other Powers. He had, he said, explained to M. del Mazo the position of the Italian Government in reference to this matter, and stated that it did not behove him to assume the initiative in reference to the request of the Spanish Government.

M. Mancini, having called upon me yesterday afternoon, told me that just after I had left him the day before the Portuguese Minister, who is living at Sorrento, had been to see him, and had read to him a communication from his Government to the following effect, viz., "that the Portuguese Government declared itself ready to take part in the measures for the protection of the Suez Canal, should the Powers assembled in Conference deem it necessary or expedient ('convenable') that they should do so."

M. Mancini informed me that he had replied to M. Varoneikos that he was not aware of the views of the other Cabinets as to admitting Powers of the second rank to take part in the protection of the Canal, but that if they should be in favour of it it would not be opposed by the Italian Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 347.)

My Lord,

Naples, August 17, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's telegram No. 316 of yesterday, and to inclose herewith a copy of a note in which I have conveyed to M. Mancini the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the friendly attitude of the Italian Government in regard to the adjournment of the Conference and other matters connected therewith, as reported in my telegram No. 101 of the 15th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

P.S.—I wrote this note in French as M. Mancini is imperfectly acquainted with English, and I am not sure whether the Secretary he has with him at Capo di Monte is more familiar with it.

A. P.

Inclosure in No. 548.

Sir A. Paget to M. Mancini.

Naples, le 17 Août, 1882.

M. le Ministre,

AYANT fait part à Lord Granville, après notre entretien d'avant-hier, des sentiments de votre Excellence, au sujet de la suspension des travaux de la Conférence, des instructions qu'elle avait l'intention d'envoyer au Comte Corti à ce sujet, aussi bien que de son opinion que les négociations entre l'Angleterre et la Turquie pour la Convention Militaire est une affaire indépendante de la Conférence, et de laquelle il n'est pas nécessaire que la Conférence soit saisie, Lord Granville, par un télégramme en date d'hier, me charge d'exprimer à votre Excellence ses remerciements de l'attitude amicale du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi dans cette circonstance.

Je profite, &c.
(Signé) A. PAGET.

No. 549.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 348.)

My Lord,

Naples, August 17, 1882.

WITH reference to the alleged enlistment of Italians for the service of Arabi Pasha, I have the honour to inclose herewith an extract from the "Italie" of the 14th August, which gives a French translation of a letter from Menotti Garibaldi, in which he denies the report of the enlistment, on account of the difficulties in the way.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

Inclosure in No. 549.

Extract from "L'Italie" of August 14, 1882.

ENRÔLEMENTS.—Le bruit a couru que des enrôlements pour l'Égypte se faisaient parmi les anciens Garibaldiens.

M. Menotti Garibaldi dément ce bruit par la lettre suivante, adressée à MM. Riccardo et Garibaldi Maglioni, et publiée par "l'Opinione Nazionale" de Florence:—

"Chers Amis,

"Albano Laziale, le 4 Août, 1882.

"Nos sympathies doivent être pour les Égyptiens qui combattent pour leur indépendance; mais il n'y a pas d'enrôlement parce que nous ne pourrions rien faire pour eux en ce moment, les difficultés que nous devrions surmonter étant trop nombreuses.

"Un salut aux amis et à vous de votre

(Signé) "M. GARIBALDI."

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 931. Secret.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 21, 1882.

IN a Very Confidential despatch marked No. 321, and dated the 12th instant, of which I find a copy in the Confidential Print for the 13th and 14th August, Sir John Walsham comments on my Secret despatch to your Lordship No. 853 of the 3rd instant, respecting the feeling in France with regard to the English expedition to Egypt.

In that despatch I mentioned that the telegram from Prince Bismarck, which was communicated to M. de Freycinet on the 27th of last month, had produced among Frenchmen in general a mingled feeling of irritation and apprehension.

Sir John Walsham appears to have supposed that this irritation was caused by the suggestion in the telegram that the Suez Canal should be placed under the protectorate of all the Powers.

This is a complete misapprehension. The irritation was caused, not by any particular suggestion which appears on the face of the document, but by the belief that the communication of the telegram at the moment of the debate on the Egyptian question was simply one of many steps supposed to have been taken by Prince Bismarck with a view to keeping M. de Freycinet in office.

Resentment at the somewhat dictatorial interference in their internal affairs implied, as they conceived, in the undisguised support Prince Bismarck was supposed by them to have given all along to M. de Freycinet, had been rankling in French minds; and this was the cause of the irritation which followed the communication of the telegram.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 551.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23, 3.45 P.M.)

(No. 359.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 23, 1882, 12.5 P.M.

LAST night the Sultan sent Seyed Ahmed Essad to me with the view, I imagine, of persuading me that this gentleman has been engaged from first to last in a loyal endeavour to get Arabi out of the way. As a great portion of his secret correspondence is before your Lordship, I need not further describe his representations. I took the opportunity, however, of recommending him to acquaint the Sultan with the gravity of the situation in which His Majesty was placing himself by throwing impediments in the way of our obtaining mules, muleteers, cattle, and drovers for Egypt.

I gave him to understand that, if this conduct was persevered in, it might lead to the complete cessation of friendly relations between the two Governments.

No. 552.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 23.)

(No. 818. Confidential. Ext. 359.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 23, 1882.

THE Sultan sent Seid Ahmet Essad Effendi, who formed part of Dervish Pasha's late Mission to Egypt, to see me last night. His Majesty did so, I imagine, with the view of persuading me that from first to last his emissary had been engaged in a loyal endeavour to get Arabi Pasha out of the way.

As a great portion of Ahmet Essad's secret correspondence is before your Lordship, I need not further describe his representations. I took the opportunity, however, of recommending him to acquaint the Sultan with the gravity of the situation in which His Majesty was placing himself by throwing impediments in the way of our obtaining mules, muleteers, cattle, and drovers for Egypt.

Indeed, I gave him to understand that if this line of conduct were persevered in, it might end in the complete cessation of friendly relations between the British and Turkish Governments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 553.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 23.)

(Confidential.)

THE Secretary of the Admiralty presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State, printed copies of telegrams recently sent to British Naval Officers on the Mediterranean Station respecting operations against the Egyptian insurgents.
Admiralty, August 23, 1882.

Inclosure 1 in No. 553.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

(Telegraphic.) *Admiralty, August 22, 1882, 12.45 P.M.*
NAME disposition of ships and Admirals [at] Alexandria, Port Saïd, and Canal.

Inclosure 2 in No. 553.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

(Telegraphic.) *Admiralty, August 22, 1882, 5.45 P.M.*
WITH reference to your telegram of 21st, of 3.20 P.M., avoid giving any guarantee of pecuniary compensation, or admitting any liability, or undertaking any responsibility on account of precedence given to transports. This is under advice of Law Officers.

Inclosure 3 in No. 553.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

(Telegraphic.) *Admiralty, August 22, 1882, 6.15 P.M.*
THE following proposal of the Italian Government has been agreed to by the Representatives of the Six Powers at Constantinople:—

[Proposal begins.]

"The Conference recognizes the desirability of organizing, for the security of the free navigation of the Suez Canal, with the co-operation of the Sublime Porte, a purely naval service of police and supervision, having a provisional character, in which all the Powers should be invited to participate, after rules to be agreed upon, and with the reservation of consultation in every special case when the application of the rules may not seem to be sufficient."

[Proposal ends.]

The British Representative, on the 10th August, accepted the proposal on condition that it was understood that it should be limited to the present emergency, and should not prevent, if the necessity occurred, either England or the other Powers from landing troops and from holding certain posts necessary for the security of the Canal, and upon the further understanding that England retains her entire liberty of action as to such military movements as may be necessary for the re-establishment of the authority of the Khedive. It was afterwards agreed, on the 14th, that the Commanders of the naval forces on the spot should be charged by their respective Governments with the establishment of the rules to be adopted in order to execute the proposal.

The Italian Government having instructed the officer commanding "Affondatore" to communicate with the Naval Officers of other Powers, in order to concert with them

the details of the service, you are to place yourself in communication with him upon the subject.

Inclosure 4 in No. 553.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

(Telegraphic.) *Admiralty, August 22, 1882, 6.30 P.M.*
REPORT if anything has been heard of Mr. Palmer and Captain Gill.

No. 554.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 1007.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 23, 1882.

HER Majesty's Government have received with much satisfaction your Excellency's despatch No. 915 of the 18th instant, reporting the manner in which Captain Rice has carried out the delicate and difficult task with which he was intrusted in connection with the measures to be taken for protecting the Suez Canal; and I have now to request that your Excellency will acquaint Captain Rice that they highly appreciate the tact and ability which he has shown in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 555.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 24.)

(No. 38.)

My Lord,

London, August 23, 1882.

WE have the honour to report that we returned to London this morning from Paris, in accordance with the permission conveyed in your Lordship's telegram of yesterday.

We had the satisfaction of informing M. Charles de Lesseps before we left that intelligence had been received by Her Majesty's Government of the resumption by the Company's employés of the service of the Canal, and of the re-establishment of more cordial relations between the English Commanders and the officials of the Company.

We have, &c.
(Signed) C. RIVERS WILSON.
J. STOKES.

No. 556.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 24, 8 A.M.)

(No. 363.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 23, 1882, 11.45 P.M.

MUNIR BEY was sent to me to-day by the Sultan to assure me that it was from no unfriendly feeling towards England that the prohibition against the shipment of mules had been insisted on, and that in order to show his friendly feelings His Majesty had ordered it to be removed.

I took this opportunity of repeating to Munir Bey some very earnest words of warning as to the gravity of the situation.

Munir Bey then disclosed the real object of his visit, which was that Ministers had received orders to make to me certain further proposals with regard to the Convention; that some [time] before I saw them His Majesty had desired to make a personal and most earnest appeal to me in regard to making Alexandria the port of disembarkation for the Turkish troops, and their base of operations. I told Munir Bey that I regretted that my instructions did not permit me to discuss the question. Twice

the same request [?] had been submitted to Her Majesty's Government, and twice they had declined to entertain it.

Munir Bey then entreated me, in the name of the Sultan, to telegraph to your Lordship on the subject.

No. 557.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 24.)

(No. 821. Confidential. Ext. 363.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 23, 1882.

THE Sultan sent Munir Bey to me to-day to assure me that it was from no unfriendly feeling towards England that the prohibition against the export of mules had been insisted upon, and that in order to show his friendly feelings, His Majesty had ordered it to be removed.

I took the opportunity of again repeating to Munir Bey some very earnest words of warning as to the gravity of the situation.

Munir Bey then disclosed the real object of his visit, which was to inform me that the Ministers had received orders to make me certain further proposals with regard to the Military Convention, but before I saw them, His Majesty desired to make a personal and most earnest appeal to me in regard to constituting Alexandria the port of disembarkation of the Turkish troops and their base of operations.

I told Munir Bey that I regretted that my instructions did not permit me to discuss the question. Twice the same proposition had been submitted to Her Majesty's Government, and twice they had declined to entertain it.

Munir Bey then entreated me, in the name of the Sultan, to telegraph to your Lordship on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 558.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 24, 11 A.M.)

(No. 364.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 23, 1882, 11.55 P.M.

AT the request of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, I waited upon him this evening at his house, where I met Assim Pasha. The two Ministers then endeavoured to obtain my assent to further modifications in the Convention. The first of these was an addition of a paragraph to Article I which would have completely neutralized the provision requiring our assent to any increase in the original Turkish force of 6,000 men. I declined either to discuss it or to telegraph its substance to your Lordship.

The Ministers then asked me whether they might introduce a phrase explaining the meaning of the IIIrd Article in the sense authorized by your Lordship in your telegram from Walmer of the 21st instant, to the effect that though the English Commander had the faculty of vetoing the movements of the Turkish troops, he was not empowered to require their Commander to make any movement to which he entertained objections. To this I agreed.

They then again endeavoured to obtain your Lordship's assent to Alexandria being the Turkish port of disembarkation, on the ground that Aboukir was in the possession of the enemy, and that it was impossible to land their troops, with munitions of war, artillery, &c., in such an inconvenient harbour as the other two.

I said that I had no reason to hope that Her Majesty's Government would modify their previous decision, which had already been twice pronounced upon this point. I added that there was a great scarcity of water at Alexandria, and that the reception of the Turkish troops, on that account alone, would be impossible. Moreover, as the bulk of our army was now transferred to the Canal, a comparatively small detachment only would probably be left in Alexandria; and the whole conduct and attitude of the Turkish Government had been so ambiguous and unfriendly that until they could give us some satisfactory pledges of their good faith it would not be desirable that Turkish troops should occupy any position where they could occasion us anxiety or annoyance.

As the Sultan, however, had made a personal request to me telegraph to your Lordship on the subject, I did not object to acquaint you with what had fallen from them also.

They then proposed some further modifications to which I would not listen; the result of the negotiation being that they have agreed to all the clauses of the Convention, with the exception of the one determining the place of disembarkation.

I then reverted to the Proclamation, and gave them to understand their persisting in withholding it was doing them a great deal of harm.

Saïd Pasha then began, with much hesitation, and evidently against his will, to suggest to me, in a roundabout manner, that the Proclamation agreed upon should not be issued at all in the first instance, but that another Proclamation of a different character, containing a final appeal to Arabi's sense of loyalty, should precede it. This impudent repudiation of his former engagements made me so angry that I got up and left the room, simply saying that it was impossible to negotiate either a Convention or anything else under such circumstances. On this the two Pashas followed me downstairs and into the street, accompanied by their Secretaries and dependents, calling to me that they retired every word of what they had said, that I must consider it altogether as *non avenue*, and that they would never again allude to the proposal.

On concluding our interview in a more amicable mood, I told them that I would not sign any Convention until the Proclamation had been officially communicated to me in French and in Arabic, and that not a single Turkish soldier would be allowed to land until it had been proclaimed in Egypt.

The two Pashas seemed heartily ashamed of themselves, and admitted that they had been compelled to make the proposal very much against their will.

Please let me have an answer for the Sultan about Alexandria.

No. 559.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 24.)

(No. 822. Confidential. Ext. 364.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 23, 1882.

I WAITED upon the Minister for Foreign Affairs this evening, at his Excellency's request, at his house, where I met Assim Pasha. The two Ministers then endeavoured to obtain my assent to further modifications in the Convention. The first of these was an addition of a paragraph to Article I which would have completely neutralized the provision requiring our assent to any increase in the original Turkish force of 6,000 men. I declined either to discuss it or to telegraph its substance to your Lordship.

The Ministers then asked me if they might introduce a phrase explaining the meaning of the IIIrd Article, in the sense authorized by your Lordship in your telegram, dated from Walmer, of the 21st instant, to the effect that, though the English Commander had the faculty of vetoing the movements of the Ottoman troops, he was not empowered to require their Commander to make any movement to which he entertained objections. To this I assented.

They then again endeavoured to obtain your Lordship's assent to Alexandria being the Ottoman port of debarkation, on the ground that Aboukir was in the possession of the enemy, and that it was impossible to land their troops, with munitions of war, artillery, &c., in such inconvenient harbours as the other two.

I said that I had no reason to hope that Her Majesty's Government would modify their previous decision, which had been already twice pronounced upon this point. I added that there was a great scarcity of water at Alexandria, and that the reception of the Ottoman troops, on that account alone, would be impossible. Moreover, as the bulk of our army was now transferred to the Canal, a comparatively small detachment only would probably be left in Alexandria; and the whole attitude and conduct of the Ottoman Government had been so ambiguous and unfriendly that, until they could give us some satisfactory pledges of their good faith, it would not be desirable that Ottoman troops should occupy any position where they could occasion us anxiety or annoyance. As the Sultan, however, had made a personal request to me to telegraph to your Lordship on the subject, I did not object to acquainting you with what had fallen from them also.

They then proposed some further modifications, to which I would not listen, the

result of the negotiations being that they have agreed to all the clauses of the Convention with the exception of the one determining the place of debarkation.

I then reverted to the Proclamation, and gave them to understand that their persistence in withholding it was doing them a great deal of harm.

Said Pasha then began, with much hesitation, and evidently against his will, to suggest to me in a roundabout manner that the Proclamation agreed upon should not be issued at all in the first instance, but that another Proclamation of a different character, containing a final appeal to Arabi's sense of loyalty, should precede it. This impudent repudiation of his former engagement made me so angry that I got up and left the room, simply saying that it was impossible to negotiate either a Convention or anything else under such circumstances. On this the two Pashas followed me down stairs and into the street, accompanied by their Secretaries and dependents, calling to me that they withdrew every word of what they had said; that I must consider it altogether as *non avenu*, and that they would never again allude to the proposal.

On concluding our interview in a more amicable mood, I told them that I would not sign any Convention until the Proclamation had been officially communicated to me in French and in Arabic, and that not a single Ottoman soldier would be allowed to land until it had been proclaimed in Egypt.

The two Pashas admitted that they had been compelled to make the proposal very much against their will, and seemed heartily ashamed of themselves.

I should be glad to receive an answer with regard to the Sultan's proposal respecting Alexandria.

I have, &c.
(For the Earl of Dufferin),
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 560.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 24, 1.30 P.M.)

(No. 413. Secret.)
(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 24, 1882, 10 A.M.

GENERAL HAMLEY consulted me yesterday evening, under instructions from the Commander-in-chief, regarding the withdrawal of further troops from Alexandria to strengthen the force advancing from Ismaïlia. I hold that the possibility of the recapture must be absolutely avoided. I am, of course, not able to form any opinion as to the minimum of troops which would guarantee the safety of Alexandria.

The following telegram was sent by General Hamley in reply:—

"Sir E. Malet considers that the existence of any doubt as to the safety of Alexandria would produce results so serious as should at all hazards be avoided, and that the removal of any considerable force from here before the arrival of reinforcements would certainly produce such a doubt.

"The heavy long-ranging guns which the enemy has lately placed in position, one of which opened fire last evening from the Aboukir side of their lines, have much increased the gravity of the situation. I hope to have a 7-inch gun in action to-morrow evening, and another perhaps the day after. In face of Sir E. Malet's opinion, I will wait further communication from you before embarking any troops.—HAMLEY."

No. 561.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 24.)

(No. 565. Ext. 413.)
My Lord,

Alexandria, August 24, 1882.

GENERAL SIR EDWARD HAMLEY came to me yesterday evening, in pursuance of instructions from the Commander-in-chief, to consult me with regard to the advisability of a further withdrawal of troops from Alexandria to strengthen the force at present advancing from Ismaïlia. I replied that I thought it most important that any risk of a possible recapture of Alexandria should be absolutely avoided,

though I was, of course, unable to form any opinion as to the minimum of troops which would suffice to guarantee the safety of the town.

General Hamley telegraphed accordingly to Sir John Acland, quoting my opinion that the existence of any uncertainty as to the safety of this town would produce results so serious as should at all hazards be avoided, and that the withdrawal of any large number of troops from here before the arrival of reinforcements would indubitably give rise to such uncertainty.

He added that the gravity of the situation here had been greatly increased by the heavy long-ranging guns recently placed in position by the enemy, one of which had opened fire the previous evening, but that he hoped next day to be able to bring a 7-inch gun into action from the British lines, and another perhaps the day after.

Finally, Sir Edward Hamley said that, in view of my opinion, he would not proceed with the embarkation of any troops before receiving some further communication from Sir G. Wolseley.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 562.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 24, 3 P.M.)

(No. 365.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 24, 1882, 11.30 A.M.

I HAVE been informed, confidentially, by one of my colleagues that the Russian Government has prepared a still more stringent and categorical formula than that mentioned in my telegram No. 316, which it wishes to be introduced into the Protocol of Adjournment. It is also endeavouring to get the other three Powers to insist on the Convention being at least communicated to the Conference. It also desires that the final meeting of the Powers should "se prononcer," whatever that may mean.

I am in hopes that the Turks have ceased to desire another meeting of the Conference.

No. 563.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 24.)

(No. 823. Confidential. Ext. 365.)
My Lord,

Therapia, August 24, 1882.

I HAVE learnt confidentially from one of my colleagues that the Russian Government has prepared a formula of a still more stringent and categorical character than that mentioned in my despatch No. 789 of the 17th instant, which they wish to introduce into the Protocol of Adjournment of the Egyptian Conference.

They are also endeavouring to induce the other three Powers to insist on the Military Convention being at least communicated to the Conference, and they also desire that at the final meeting should "se prononcer," whatever that may mean.

I am in hopes that the Ottoman Government have ceased to wish for another meeting of the Conference.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 564.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Sir J. Pouncefote.—(Received August 24.)

Sir,

Admiralty, August 24, 1882.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will state to Earl Granville that they observe from the Report addressed by the British Directors of the Suez Canal Company on the 20th instant, that M. Charles de Lesseps has remarked that the communication made to the Council of the Company at Paris on the subject of the necessity under which the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces found himself of occupying, on behalf of His Highness the

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Khedive of Egypt, certain positions on the Suez Canal, had been anticipated by the action taken by Rear-Admiral Sir Wm. Hewett at Suez.

My Lords would greatly regret, more especially having regard to the cordial relations which they understand to exist between Her Majesty's officers and the officials of the Company on the Canal, that the Council in Paris should suppose that there was any intentional or avoidable delay in making the communication to them.

The information that Sir Beauchamp Seymour had started from Alexandria for Port Saïd was only received at the Admiralty at mid-day on the 20th, and it was at once telegraphed to Paris, in order that the communication might be made without delay to the Council. Action was not taken at Port Saïd and Ismaïlia till the early morning of the 21st.

It appears to their Lordships probable that the action taken by Rear-Admiral Sir William Hewett at Suez was hastened in consequence of the appearance of the rebel forces on the line of railway between Genife and Suez, and the attempt made by them to cut the sweet water canal at Chalouf.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

No. 565.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received August 24.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

Admiralty, August 24, 1882.

WITH reference to your letter of the 22nd instant respecting the measures proposed to be taken for the international police protection of the Suez Canal, and to telegram of the 22nd instant (No. 233) from the Admiralty to Sir Beauchamp Seymour (copy of which was forwarded to you), giving him instructions on the subject, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request you will state to Earl Granville that Sir Beauchamp Seymour reports by telegram No. 198 of this day's date that he has put himself in communication with the captain of the Italian iron-clad "Affondatore."

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

No. 566.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 543.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 24, 1882, 8 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 363.

We can make no further changes as regards provisions of Military Convention.

Intimate that it will not be for the dignity of either country, under the present pressure of circumstances, to prolong negotiations indefinitely.

No. 567.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 515. Ext. 543.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 24, 1882.

I HAVE received and had under my consideration your Excellency's telegram No. 363 of the 23rd instant, reporting that a further request had been made to you by the Sultan with regard to making Alexandria the port of disembarkation for the Turkish troops, and their base of operations.

In reply, I have to state that Her Majesty's Government are unable to make any further changes in the provisions of the proposed Military Convention, and your Excellency should intimate to the Porte that under the present pressure of circumstances it will not be well for the dignity of either this country or Turkey that the negotiations should be indefinitely prolonged.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 568.

M. Mancini to M. de Catalani.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by M. de Catalani, August 25.)

(Télégraphique.)

Rome, le 24 Août, 1882, 6 h. 50 m. soir.

LE Cabinet de Madrid insistant pour avoir réponse, je vous prie de demander au Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité son avis au sujet de l'admission de l'Espagne au service de police dans le Canal de Suez, ainsi qu'au sujet de la Puissance qui devrait prendre l'initiative d'une proposition en ce sens.

No. 569.

M. Mancini to M. de Catalani.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by M. de Catalani, August 25.)

(Télégraphique.)

Rome, le 24 Août, 1882.

NOUS avons appris avec plaisir par votre télégramme d'avant-hier que le Commandant Anglais allait recevoir instructions de se concerter avec ses collègues pour le service de police navale dans le Canal de Suez. C'est de la part du Cabinet de la Reine le témoignage de son désir de procéder en pareils sujets d'accord avec les autres Cabinets pour autant qu'il n'en est pas empêché par les exigences de l'action militaire dans laquelle il se trouve engagé. Notre Commandant qui va recevoir ses instructions nous télégraphie que l'Amiral Seymour lui a déjà notifié ordre qu'il a reçu de Londres de se mettre en communication avec lui. C'est naturellement l'Amiral Anglais qui va donner les instructions nécessaires pour que le service de police navale puisse se concilier avec le développement des opérations militaires du côté du Canal.

No. 570.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 25, 8:15 A.M.)

(No. 368.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 24, 1882, 11:55 P.M.

SAÏD and Assim Pashas came to me to-day from the Porte, and Munir Bey from the Palace, each the bearer of a personal request from the Sultan that I should endeavour to induce your Lordship to agree to allow the Turkish troops to land at Alexandria, on the same grounds as had been previously urged, namely, that Damietta and Rosetta are impossible ports, unsheltered and almost unapproachable. Moreover, that in case of reverse there would be no means of re-embarking defeated army with any degree of certainty or safety.

I replied that I had already acquainted your Lordship with the Sultan's wishes; that I was quite sure that you would be most anxious to meet his views always, whenever [?] compatible with the great interests at stake; but that, on the other hand, the delay in the issue of the Proclamation, and the general attitude of His Majesty, had greatly indisposed public opinion in England to any modification in the terms of the Convention, which had found their way into the public prints.

In reply to the request that I should use my personal interest, I stated that was altogether a vain demand, as the question would have to be decided in London upon military grounds, which were quite beyond my competence to discuss or appreciate.

The Ministers then entreated me to render the second clause more acceptable to the Sultan, not by tacking to it the words [?] which I had refused even to telegraph last night, but by a sentence couched in the following terms:—

"It is apparent [?] the English authorities will endeavour to facilitate and accelerate the arrival of such reinforcements as circumstances may require in accomplishment of the above-mentioned agreement."

I hope your Lordship will forgive me for reiterating these requests of the Sultan, but having already been very stiff with him and his Ministers, it is desirable that I should not irritate him more than necessary, as it would interfere with my future usefulness, and a refusal of this request from London, if circumstances so required, would prove less exasperating than were I to decline to forward a message which he has so earnestly requested me to carry.

The plea of the badness of the harbours of Rosetta and Damietta is undoubtedly well founded, but I suspect that the principal desire of the Sultan is to bring the influence of his officers and of his deputies to bear upon the Khedive, who he imagines will remain at Alexandria.

With regard to the second point, it is merely another endeavour on the part of the Ministers to render the Convention more palatable to their master. The phrase, taken in connection with the preceding sentence, is almost meaningless, and contains the qualification "as circumstances may require," of which we remain the judges. Nor does it invalidate in any way the main condition of the Article, which is that no fresh troops can go without our previous consent.

The Ministers have now given me a positive promise that a copy of the Proclamation in French, with a translation in Arabic, which must meet with my approval, will be officially communicated to me the moment the heads of the Convention are agreed to.

No. 571.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 25.)

(No. 827. Confidential. Ext. 368.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 24, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that Saïd and Assim Pashas came to me from the Porte to-day, and Munir Bey from the Palace, each the bearer of a personal request from the Sultan that I should endeavour to induce your Lordship to agree to allow the Turkish troops to land at Alexandria, on the same ground as had been previously urged, namely, that Damietta and Rosetta are impossible ports, unsheltered and almost unapproachable. Moreover, in case of a reverse there would be no means of re-embarking the defeated army with any degree of certainty or safety.

I replied that I had already acquainted your Lordship with the Sultan's wishes; that I was quite sure you would be most anxious to meet his views as far as was compatible with the great interests at stake; but that, on the other hand, the delay in the issue of the Proclamation, and the general attitude of His Majesty, had greatly indisposed public opinion in England to any modification of the terms of the Convention.

In reply to the request that I should use my personal interest, I stated that that was altogether a vain demand, as the question would have to be decided in London upon military grounds, which were quite beyond my competence either to discuss or appreciate.

The Ministers then entreated me to render the second clause more acceptable to the Sultan, not by tacking to it the phraseology which I had refused even to telegraph last night, but by a sentence couched in the following terms:—

"It is understood that the English authorities will endeavour to facilitate and accelerate the arrival of such reinforcements as circumstances may require in accordance with the above-mentioned agreement."

I hope that your Lordship will forgive me for reiterating these requests of the Sultan, but having already been very stiff with him and his Ministers, it is desirable that I should not irritate him more than is necessary, as it would interfere with my future usefulness, and a refusal of this request from London, if circumstances so required, would prove less exasperating than were I to decline to forward a message which His Majesty has so earnestly requested me to transmit.

The plea of the badness of the harbours of Rosetta and Damietta is undoubtedly well founded, but I suspect that the principal desire of the Sultan is to bring the influence of his officers and his army to bear upon the Khedive, who he imagines will remain at Alexandria.

With regard to the second point, it is merely another endeavour on the part of the Ministers to render the Convention more palatable to their master. The phrase, taken in connection with the preceding sentence, is almost meaningless, and contains the qualification "as circumstances may require," of which we remain the judges. Nor does it in any way invalidate the main condition of the Article, which is that no fresh troops can go without our previous consent.

The Ministers have now given me a positive promise that a copy of the Proclamation in French, with a translation in Arabic, which must meet with my

approbation, will be officially communicated to me the moment the heads of the Convention are agreed to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 572.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 25, 3.45 P.M.)

(No. 370.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 25, 1882, 1.15 P.M.

ALTHOUGH the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister had actually written a letter ordering the release of the shepherds and muleteers engaged by the contractors to proceed to Egypt in charge of the live stock which had been shipped at Odessa and Smyrna for the use of our army, a subsequent order from the Palace annulled their decision. A further order from the Palace has threatened with imprisonment the artificers who have undertaken to supply the contractors with 600 pack-saddles. These unfriendly acts of the Sultan I have communicated to my colleagues. I have also acquainted them with the shifty way in which the negotiations relative to the Convention are being conducted. I do not think the foreign Representatives here would consider it unreasonable if, in the existing circumstances, we broke off the negotiations.

They are quite aware that we have honestly done everything we could be reasonably expected to do to promote Turkish co-operation. May I threaten, at all events, to break off negotiations, and, if the Sultan perseveres in interfering with our supplies, to break off relations? Even if the Sultan sends his troops, under satisfactory conditions on paper, he will be sure to try his best to thwart [?] us.

No. 573.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 25.)

(No. 829. Confidential. Ext. 370.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 25, 1882.

I REGRET to have to inform your Lordship that, although the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister had actually written a letter ordering the release of the shepherds and muleteers engaged by the contractors to proceed to Egypt in charge of the live stock which had been shipped at Odessa and Smyrna for the use of our army, a subsequent order from the Palace annulled their decision. A further order from the Palace has threatened with imprisonment the artificers who have undertaken to supply the contractors with the 600 pack-saddles we require. These unfriendly acts of the Sultan I have communicated to my colleagues. I have also kept them acquainted with the shifty way in which the negotiations relative to the Convention are being conducted. I do not think that the foreign Representatives here would consider us unreasonable if, in the presence of the foregoing circumstances, we broke off the negotiations. They are quite aware that we have honestly done everything we could reasonably be expected to do to promote Turkish co-operation.

Would your Lordship authorize me, at all events, to threaten to break off negotiations, and, if the Sultan perseveres in interfering with our supplies, to break off relations?

Even if His Majesty sends his troops under satisfactory conditions on paper, he will be sure to do his best to thwart us.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 25, 7:45 P.M.)

(No. 82.)
(Telegraphic.)

Berlin, August 25, 1882, 6 P.M.

REFERENCE to your Lordship's despatch No. 348, Confidential, of the 9th instant.

Prince Bismarck wishes your Lordship to know that he considers the pretension of the Suez Canal Company to exact toll from vessels performing patrol duty as perfectly inadmissible, and that the Company may think itself lucky if it is not called upon to repay the tolls already collected from such vessels. He himself does not intend to submit to the pretension for a moment, and will bring the question before the proper Tribunals if necessary.

This decision has been taken after reading the explanation I was instructed to make on the subject to the German Government.

(Very Confidential.)

As regards the arrangement for executing the Italian proposal, the Chancellor considers the idea of allowing several Commanders to consult together about details, and refer home for instructions, as decidedly inconvenient, but having learnt that Her Majesty's Government do not actually object to it, he will not oppose it; but I am desired to state, confidentially, that the instructions to be given to the Commanders of their vessels will be to the effect that wherever Her Majesty's forces may happen to be, Germany will be perfectly satisfied, and in no way consider that her interests require special protection.

No. 575.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 25.)

(No. 336. Very Confidential. Ext. 82.)

My Lord,

Berlin, August 25, 1882.

ON the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 348 of the 9th instant, I did not fail to submit, confidentially, to Count Hatzfeldt the views of the British Directors of the Suez Canal Company with regard to the question of tolls claimed from vessels engaged on patrol duty, and I acquainted his Excellency with the reasons which had hitherto induced Her Majesty's Government to acquiesce in the pretensions of the Company on this point.

Count Hatzfeldt forwarded my written explanation to Prince Bismarck, and when I was at the Foreign Office to-day, Dr. Busch, who is in charge of the Department, said he had been instructed by his Highness to inform me that the pretension of the Canal Company to exact tolls from vessels patrolling the waters was perfectly inadmissible, and that the Company might consider itself exceedingly fortunate if it was not required to pay back whatever sums it had already collected from vessels engaged on patrol service. That, as far as German vessels were concerned, he did not for a moment intend to submit to such a pretension, and that, if necessary, he should have the case laid before the proper Tribunals.

Dr. Busch then added that, as regards the operation of the Italian proposal, the Chancellor desired I would let your Lordship know, very confidentially, that if he had accepted the inconvenient plan of allowing the Commanders of the several vessels to work out the details of the arrangement, and refer to their respective Governments for instructions, it was solely because he understood that Her Majesty's Government were not inclined to make any objections to it; but his Highness was at the same time anxious to inform your Lordship that, in issuing orders to the Commanders of German vessels, the Imperial Government would give them clearly to understand that in all places within the range of Her Majesty's forces German interests were to be regarded as being perfectly secure, and is in no way requiring special protection or special assistance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 25, 9 P.M.)

(No. 415.)
(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 25, 1882, 7:30 P.M.

AS far as I can judge, the time has past when the co-operation of the Turkish troops with us can be of any advantage. At the beginning of the campaign, as a necessary concomitant of the declaration of Arabi as a rebel, it was tolerable under restrictions; but the action of the Sultan has prevented its being possible that it should now be believed by the rebels that he is really on our side. The hoped-for moral effect of the alliance cannot, therefore, be attained.

(Confidential.)

Both Chérif Pasha and Riaz Pasha are extremely anxious that no Turkish troops should come. They dread complications and great difficulties hereafter if they once land.

No. 577.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 25.)

(No. 567. Ext. 415.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 25, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, so far as I am able to judge, the co-operation of Turkish troops would no longer bring us any advantage. At the outset of the campaign, the admission of such co-operation as the price paid for the denunciation of Arabi as a rebel by the Sultan would have been tolerable under certain restrictions, but that time has now passed. The action of the Sultan has been such as to prevent the possibility of the rebels believing that His Majesty is really anxious to assist us; and thus the moral support which an alliance with Turkey might have given us cannot any longer be attained.

Both Chérif Pasha and Riaz Pasha have expressed, confidentially, their extreme anxiety to obviate the difficulties which the arrival of Turkish troops would entail, and they are especially apprehensive of the complications which may ensue hereafter from their presence in the country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 578.

Consul-General Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received August 26.)

(No. 7. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, August 20, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that the Vali, Rassim Pasha, yesterday evening informed me, confidentially, that he had just received a telegram in cypher from Saïd Pasha, the Prime Minister, dated the 16th instant, stating that a report had reached Constantinople that two influential Chiefs, one at Tripoli and the other at Bengazi, were organizing forces with the intention of proceeding to Egypt to assist Arabi Pasha, and instructing him to take steps to prevent any such attempt. The Vali told me that he had no information of any such movement in this district, but it was possible at Bengazi there might be something of the kind, and he would communicate immediately with the Vali of that district on the subject. Rassim Pasha said that he could not refrain from communicating this good news to me, confidentially, for, as I was well aware, he had always been of opinion that it was in the interest of the Sultan to co-operate cordially with England in putting down Arabi Pasha, and he considered the instructions he had just received were an indication that His Majesty had at last become alive to the advisability of doing so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. DRUMMOND HAY.

Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville.—(Received August 26.)

E
(No. 943. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Paris, August 24, 1882.

AT the interview which I had with the President this morning he referred to the last telegrams from Egypt, and expressed very apparent satisfaction at the prospect there now would seem to be of the military operations there being brought to an early conclusion.

M. Grévy said it was not only out of good-will to England that he hoped for the prompt success of our arms, it was also in the interest of France. Panislamism was a factor of great weight in the future; and he considered it of the highest importance that there should be no doubt, even for a moment, that Mussulman or Arab troops could not resist Europeans in the field.

The action of the Chamber had prevented this Government giving practical proof of its desire for our success; but he could assure me (in spite of what some few might say to the contrary) that France wished well to England in this matter, and would sincerely rejoice at the success of her arms.

The President did not touch upon the future.

I confined myself to thanking him for these expressions of good-will, and to assuring him of the value which Her Majesty's Government attach to maintaining always the most friendly relations with France.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 580.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 545.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 26, 1882, noon.

IF facts reported in your telegram No. 370 are correct, it is impossible for you to continue the negotiation respecting the Convention, even if the delay which has been created and the progress of events had not now made it superfluous.

No. 581.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 527. Ext. 545.)
My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 26, 1882.

I HAVE received your Excellency's telegram No. 370 of the 25th instant, and in reply I have to state that should the facts as therein reported prove to be correct, Her Majesty's Government consider that it is no longer possible for your Excellency to continue the negotiations with regard to the proposed Military Convention, even had the delay which has been created by the Porte and the rapid progress of events in Egypt not now rendered its conclusion superfluous.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 582.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 434.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 26, 1882, 12.10 P.M.

REQUEST Khedive to send some of his officers who have influence with Bedouins at once to Suez to assist in managing them and obtaining information about Mr. Palmer.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 285 A. Ext. 434.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, August 26, 1882.

I HAVE to instruct you to request His Highness the Khedive to send at once to Suez some of his officers who have influence with the Bedouins, in order that they may assist in managing them, and also, if possible, in obtaining information relative to Mr. Palmer.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 584.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 26, 1.45 P.M.)

(No. 416.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 26, 1882, 11.45 A.M.

MY telegram No. 410 of 22nd instant.

The captured officers and men of the Austrian gun-boat "Nautilus" have all been restored to their ship. They saw Arabi in the neighbourhood of Kafr-Dowar, but are under parole to give no military information.

No. 585.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 26, 5.35 P.M.)

(No. 417.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 26, 1882, 2.40 P.M.

THE Khedive recently sent three agents in the steamer "Dakahliah" to Asia Minor to recruit men for a body-guard. On reaching Adana they were arrested by the Governor-General, to whom His Highness had given the men letters of introduction. Their names are Hussein Agha, His Highness' head cavass, Ibrahim Effendi, Lieutenant of His Highness' body-guard, and an Arab clerk.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 586.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 26.)

(No. 568. Ext. 417.)
My Lord,

Alexandria, August 26, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Khedive recently dispatched, by the Khedivial steamer "Dakalich," Hussein Aga, head Cavass of His Highness, Ibrahim Effendi, Lieutenant of His Highness' body-guard, and a native clerk to Asia Minor, with a view to recruit men for a body-guard, and furnished them, before their departure, with letters of introduction to the Governor-General of Adana; but on their arrival they were arrested by his Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 587.

Earl Granville to Mr. Baring.

(No. 46.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, August 26, 1882.

THE Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires in London left with me, on the 14th instant, the telegram from M. de Serpa of which copy is inclosed.* It expresses the readiness of the Portuguese Government to contribute, so far as their resources allow, to the

security of the Suez Canal, in the event of their concurrence being considered either useful or necessary by Her Majesty's Government, in agreement with the Powers of Europe.

I have to request that you will lose no time in thanking M. de Serpa for this courteous communication.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 588.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 27.)

(No. 786.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 15, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a despatch I have received from Mr. Consul Moore with regard to the state of affairs in his district in connection with recent events in Egypt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 588.

Consul Moore to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord,

Jerusalem, July 29, 1882.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's telegrams of the 12th, 16th, and 22nd instant.

On the 23rd instant I sent to your Excellency the following telegram in cypher:—

"Your telegrams have been received; the first specially useful. There is some excitement here, but authorities promptly suppress any attempt at disorder."

The usefulness of your first message consisted in enabling me to put the bombardment of the forts of Alexandria in its true light and thus counteract the irritation which the receipt of the news of the bare fact would produce in the minds of the Moslem public.

Since the date of my telegram, I have received information of a somewhat grave incident which has occurred at Jaffa. Last week there arrived at that port an Egyptian coasting-vessel laden with rice from Damietta. The master of this craft, Mohammed Elridi, recounted to assemblages of the Mahomedans of Jaffa a string of false stories to the effect that the Egyptians had sunk six English men-of-war, that the Moslems of Port Saïd had captured an English vessel there and put her crew to death, that the Christians of Damietta had been massacred, &c., and proceeded to incite his auditors to the slaughter of the Christians at Jaffa, reproaching them with their apathy and timidity.

The conduct of this man naturally excited the fears of the Christian population. The different Vice-Consuls at Jaffa held a meeting on the subject, and, on bringing the matter to the notice of the Kaïmakam, the latter sent for Elridi and ordered him to be imprisoned. The Kaïmakam soon after left for Ramleh, a neighbouring town, on business which, he said, he had to attend there.

On the same afternoon a crowd of Moslems, headed by some of the more noted Mahomedan citizens, proceeded to the Konak and demanded the liberation of Elridi, threatening to use force if their demand be not complied with at once. The Mufti, who acted for the Governor, and the President of the local Medjliss, after some little parley, yielded to this requisition, and released the prisoner.

The action of the Kaïmakam, under present circumstances, was perhaps too hasty. A severe reprimand and serious caution to Elridi, and a reference to his superior, the Governor of Jerusalem, for instructions, would have been better advised, the more so that the public force at Jaffa, whether as regards troops or police, is notoriously inadequate, and there is a "rough" element at that place, chiefly composed of the numerous class of porters and boatmen. This triumph of the mob is an unfortunate precedent and example.

Raouf Pasha, our Governor, has sent orders to the Kaïmakam to see that Elridi leaves Jaffa with as little delay as possible.

At Lydda, a town distant three hours inland from Jaffa, abusive and threatening language has been held by the Mahomedans to the Christians, and dirt thrown by the former at the entrance of the Greek Church there. The ringleaders have been arrested and taken to Jaffa for trial.

It is almost needless to say that an uneasy feeling pervades the Christian population generally.

The most important event I have to report to your Excellency is the expected arrival shortly here of the Mushir, Hussein Fevzi Pasha, Commander-in-chief at Damascus, on his way, it is said, to Gaza and El-Arish, on the Syro-Egyptian frontier, which he is to guard or watch. The Mushir is coming by the overland route, and has called at the intermediate garrison towns; his Excellency is reported to be bringing a considerable body of troops with him, very variously estimated as to numbers. Meantime Mr. Consular Agent Amzalak reports to me from Jaffa that two days ago a sailing-vessel arrived at Jaffa laden with ammunition for Gaza, and that it is stated troops were on their way to that place and the frontier. I shall, of course, report further to your Excellency on this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NOEL TEMPLE MOORE.

No. 589.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 27.)

(No. 791. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 18, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to forward a very confidential Report from Dervish Pasha to the Prime Minister, dated the 27th July, in which he very naïvely describes how he endeavoured to entice Arabi Pasha on board an Imperial yacht in order to send him off to Constantinople.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 589.

Memorandum by Dervish Pasha.

(Confidential.)
(Traduction.)

DURANT ma mission, soit au Caire, soit à Alexandrie, les conversations et l'échange d'idées qui eurent lieu entre moi et certains notabilités de l'Égypte, servaient à démontrer que toutes les personnes de marque sont opposées aux agissements d'Arabi Pacha et qu'il leur tarde de voir que le susnommé soit éloigné de l'Égypte, et qu'il soit conduit à Constantinople. L'homme que l'on appelle Arabi Pacha, étant un individu obstiné et qui ne recule devant aucun danger pour atteindre le but qu'il se propose, a réussi d'attirer de son côté quelques imbéciles. Son entreprise de faire naître les événements actuels en Égypte n'est point d'une date récente. Déjà avant la destitution d'Ismail Pacha, il s'était jeté dans l'arène politique après avoir fortifié son parti. Ismail Pacha, quoiqu'il ne fut pas content du parti National non plus que de son fondateur, Arabi, et qu'il eût compris que les agissements de ce parti séditionnaire avaient pour but de l'expulser lui et ses descendants de l'Égypte, il paraît qu'à cause des sentiments hostiles qu'à cette époque les Européens entretenaient à son égard et leurs tentatives de le faire révoquer, l'avaient trop occupé pour qu'il pût déraciner et arracher du sol Égyptien le parti National. De même son fils Tewfik, à son avènement au pouvoir, dans son désir de s'assurer l'affection des sujets, ayant adopté une politique de douceur et de mansuétude, ceci a servi à enhardir et à fortifier le parti National, au point à lui faire tenter, à l'égard du Khédive, sous l'instigation de son chef, Arabi, des actes d'agression inouïs. Ainsi, sous le prétexte d'écarter l'intervention Européenne et de former l'Assemblée Nationale, il a, à plusieurs reprises, assiégé le Palais d'Abidin, en mettant en danger la vie même du Khédive. Quoique Arabi Pacha ne cesse de dire que le Khédive est un traître et qu'il a vendu le pays aux

Anglais, j'ai pu constater par la conduite, soit apparente, soit intime du Khédive, que ces assertions sont dénuées de tout fondement. La vérité est que Tewfik Pacha, vu la délicatesse des temps, a dû user de la douceur et tâcher de gagner la faveur d'une Grande Puissance, particulièrement celle de l'Angleterre, qui a des intérêts majeurs en Égypte. Or, ceci a suffi pour lui attirer la malveillance, soit des habitants, soit des officiers de l'armée. Tout cela m'a été démontré jusqu'à l'évidence, de même qu'il n'y a rien dans sa conduite qui soit en opposition des Firmans Impériaux ou qui en dépasse les limites. Si Arabi avait atteint son but, qui était celui de faire destituer le Khédive, il aurait moins intrigué ensuite contre son successeur. Sa manière d'être le démontre suffisamment, attendu qu'ayant fixé dans sa tête qu'il doit s'emparer du pouvoir, grâce à l'influence dont il jouit, il est évident qu'il ne saurait marcher d'accord avec aucun Khédive. À mon arrivée au Caire quelques membres du corps qui est appelée Assemblée du Peuple sont venus me voir à l'instigation d'Arabi, afin de me déclarer qu'ils n'avaient aucun autre désir que la confirmation d'Arabi au pouvoir, qu'ils ne consentiraient jamais à sa destitution, et que le maintien du Khédive ne leur semblait point nécessaire. Je leur ai déclaré que je ne saurais tolérer leur immixtion dans les affaires politiques, et qu'il n'était pas dans mes instructions que j'eusse recours à leurs conseils. Là-dessus, après avoir prononcé des paroles offensantes contre ma personne, ils sortirent de ma présence. Une heure et demie plus tard, Arabi venant lui-même chez moi, et me montrant un exemplaire du Koran qu'il tenait à la main, m'apostropha ainsi qu'il suit :— "Vous avez chassé les Ulémas et vous avez déclaré que vous ne voulez rien entendre en dehors de vos instructions. Le but de ma visite c'est de vous signifier notre accord et de vous déclarer que si vos instructions sont conformes aux prescriptions de ce livre sacré, nous sommes disposés à vous aider, mais que si elles y sont contraires, nous les combattons par cette épée."

Cela dit, il s'en alla, en brandissant son épée, et se rendant de là à la station télégraphique, il adressa un télégramme pour se plaindre que je l'aurais offensé. Toutes les manœuvres et caresses dont j'ai fait usage à l'égard d'Arabi pour le décider à se rendre à Constantinople ont été vaines. Même, lorsqu'à l'arrivée de la décoration nous lui avons dit avec le Khédive en la lui remettant qu'il était de son devoir de se rendre à Constantinople pour remercier Sa Majesté de sa bonté insigne à son égard, il persista à dire qu'en présence de la crise que le pays traversait de l'agression des Anglais, il ne saurait aller nulle part, et qu'il exprimerait sa reconnaissance par télégraphe en présentant en même temps ses excuses. Plus tard, à la suite des événements d'Alexandrie, Arabi étant arrivé, et pendant qu'il s'occupait à assurer la tranquillité publique, j'ai bien constaté la nécessité qu'il y avait à son éloignement. Par conséquent, j'ai donné des ordres secrets au Capitaine du bateau "Izzeddin," qui était dans le port, de se tenir prêt et qu'aussitôt qu'Arabi serait à son bord de lever inopinément l'ancre et de l'emporter à Constantinople. Le lendemain me rendant auprès d'Arabi je lui prodiguai des marques d'amitié, et de parole en parole en amenant le discours sur le bateau "Izzeddin," j'ai ajouté qu'il serait opportun d'aller visiter les bateaux Égyptiens qui étaient dans le port, ainsi que le susdit bateau. Il me répondit avec ironie qu'il était un soldat de terre, et qu'il n'avait rien à faire à bord des bateaux. "Au lieu," dit-il, "de perdre notre temps à visiter des bateaux, nous ferions une œuvre plus méritoire en restant à la tête des affaires qui sont de notre ressort, et en complétant ce qui est defectueux." Avant le bombardement de l'Alexandrie, tant le Khédive que moi-même, nous lui avons donné les ordres les plus catégoriques de suspendre les travaux des fortifications. Non seulement il a fait ce qui lui a plu, mais je n'ai jamais pu découvrir chez lui aucune marque de soumission. Il prétendait qu'il s'était assuré l'union de l'Islam depuis les Indes jusqu'à la Mecque, et depuis le Caire jusqu'au Maroc, mais lors du bombardement d'Alexandrie j'ai compris que s'étaient des blagues inventées par lui pour tromper les Égyptiens. Il est certain que si la suggestion que j'avais eu l'honneur de soumettre par télégraphe, par rapport à l'envoi de troupes, était adoptée, les affaires ne seraient pas maintenant où elles en sont; Arabi et ses partisans auraient été arrêtés, et j'aurais réussi à remédier à l'état de l'Égypte. À l'heure qu'il est, bien qu'il soit certain que les Égyptiens s'opposent à l'armée Impériale, cependant le Gouvernement se trouve obligé d'envoyer des troupes. Sans cela les Anglais persisteront jusqu'à la fin dans leur entreprise, et le résultat en sera la conquête de l'Égypte. D'un autre côté, en supposant même qu'Arabi en sorte victorieux, ce qui est impossible, notre Gouvernement devrait en pareille circonstance s'attendre pour sûr à ce que l'Irak, le Hedjaz, et la Syrie aussi se détachent de lui. Par conséquent, soit la conquête des Anglais, soit la réussite d'Arabi à consolider son pouvoir, étant une chose très dangereuse pour notre Gouvernement, je serais d'avis d'envoyer des troupes, d'inviter Arabi et les Égyptiens à la soumission, de leur faire

connaître les prescriptions de la loi sacrée, qui rendent l'obéissance obligatoire, et s'ils refusent, d'adopter l'alternative la moins nuisible, qui est celle de les frapper.
Le 1^{er} 1/2 Juillet, 1882.

No. 590.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 27, 11 P.M.)

(No. 372A.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 26, 1882.

AT an interview I had with Saïd and Assim Pashas to-day I informed them that, in reply to the communication I had addressed to your Lordship at their request, I had been informed that Her Majesty's Government did not consider that any further changes in the draft of the Convention could be introduced with advantage, and that your Lordship had further authorized me to state that you did not consider it was compatible with the dignity of the two Governments that these negotiations should be indefinitely prolonged.

In delivering this message to Saïd and Assim Pashas, I told them that I regarded it as a sign that, discouraged by the unsatisfactory manner in which the negotiations were proceeding, and the way in which large alterations in the text *ad referendum* were introduced, as well as by the disposition evinced by the Porte on the previous Thursday to draw back in some degree from its engagements in regard to the Proclamation, Her Majesty's Government would soon probably come to the conclusion that the time for entering into a Convention with the Ottoman Government was past, and that I should not be surprised if in a few more hours I received an intimation to that effect.

No. 591.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 27.)

(No. 830. Confidential. Ext. 372A.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 26, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report that, at an interview I had with Saïd and Assim Pashas to-day, I informed them (in accordance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's telegram No. 543) that, in reply to the communication I had addressed to your Lordship at their request, I had been informed that Her Majesty's Government did not consider that any further changes in the draft of the Convention could be introduced with advantage, and that your Lordship had further authorized me to state that you did not consider it compatible with the dignity of the two Governments that these negotiations should be indefinitely prolonged.

In delivering this message to Saïd and Assim Pashas, I told them that I regarded it as a sign that, discouraged by the unsatisfactory manner in which the negotiations were proceeding, and the way in which large alterations in the text *ad referendum* were being introduced, as well as by the disposition evinced by the Porte on the previous Thursday to draw back from its engagements in regard to the Proclamation, Her Majesty's Government would soon probably come to the conclusion that the time for entering into a Convention with the Ottoman Government was passed, and that I should not be surprised if in a few more hours I received an intimation to that effect.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 592.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 27, 2 P.M.)

(No. 373.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 27, 1882, 10.30 A.M.

MALET'S telegram No. 417 to your Lordship may perhaps account for the Sultan's conduct in respect to the shepherds. He probably suspects that they are intended for the Khedive's body-guard.

No. 593.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 27, 5:30 P.M.)(No. 418.)
(Telegraphic.)*Alexandria, August 27, 1882, 2:30 P.M.*

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 434 of yesterday.

The Khedive will send Colonel Osman Rifat to Suez. He will start to-day.

No. 594.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 27, 7 P.M.)(No. 419.)
(Telegraphic.)*Alexandria, August 27, 1882, 4:30 P.M.*

THE Ministry has been formed as follows:—

Chérif Pasha, President of Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Riaz Pasha, Interior; Haidar Pasha, Finance; Omar Pasha Loutfy, War; Fakhry Pasha, Justice; Chairy Pasha, Public Instruction; Aly Pasha Moubarak, Public Works; Zeky Pasha, Religious Institutions.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 595.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 808.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 21, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 776 of the 14th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the Protocol of the sixteenth sitting of the Egyptian Conference, duly signed by the Representatives of the Powers, which is intended for Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 595.

Protocol of the Sixteenth Sitting of the Egyptian Conference.—August 14, 1882.

Présidence de son Excellence SAÏD PACHA.

Étaient présents:

Pour la Grande-Bretagne—

Son Excellence M. le Comte de Dufferin, Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Pour l'Allemagne—

M. de Hirschfeldt, Chargé d'Affaires d'Allemagne.

Pour l'Autriche-Hongrie—

Son Excellence M. le Baron de Calice, Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Impériale et Royale Apostolique.

Pour la France—

Son Excellence M. le Marquis de Noailles, Ambassadeur de la République Française.

Pour l'Italie—

Son Excellence M. le Comte Corti, Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté le Roi d'Italie.

Pour la Russie—

Son Excellence M. Nélidow, Envoyé en Mission Extraordinaire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de Russie.

Pour la Turquie—

Son Excellence Saïd Pacha, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, et

Son Excellence Assim Pacha, Ministre de l'Evêque.

Le Président ayant rouvert la discussion sur la proposition Italienne relativement au Canal de Suez, s'est adressé à l'Ambassadeur de France et lui a demandé s'il avait reçu des instructions l'autorisant à adhérer à la proposition.

L'Ambassadeur de France a répondu qu'il était autorisé à adhérer si tous les Représentants des Puissances participant à la Conférence avaient donné leur adhésion et a prié le Président de constater que les adhésions déjà acquises étaient maintenues. Tous les membres de la Conférence ayant répondu qu'ils maintenaient leur adhésion antérieure, l'Ambassadeur de France a déclaré qu'il adhérerait également, en ajoutant que la France réservait son entière liberté d'appréciation quant à l'exécution des mesures auxquelles elle pouvait être appelée à prendre part en vertu de cet arrangement.

L'Ambassadeur d'Italie a remercié la Conférence, et abordant les moyens d'exécution, a fait la proposition suivante:—

“Les Commandants des forces navales sur les lieux seront chargés par leurs Gouvernements respectifs de fixer les règles à établir pour la mise à exécution du projet que la Conférence vient d'adopter.”

Tous les membres de la Conférence ont accepté cette proposition en s'engageant à en informer leurs Gouvernements.

(Signé) DUFFERIN.
L. HIRSCHFELDT.
CALICE.
MARQUIS DE NOAILLES.
L. CORTI.
NÉLIDOW.
SAÏD.
M. ASSIM.

No. 596.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 809. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 21, 1882.

DURING the past month of Ramazan a good deal of inflammatory language has been used in the mosques of Constantinople with regard to the affairs of Egypt, the preachers abusing England in no measured terms, and inciting the people to take up arms against the Christians in defence of Islam.

As a specimen of what has been said, I inclose a Report of sermons preached in two of the principal mosques here. I should add, however, that the two Hodjas mentioned in this Report, Mustafa Effendi and Hafiz Akif Effendi, have been arrested and imprisoned by the Sultan's secret police.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 596.

Memorandum communicated to the Earl of Dufferin by Consul-General Fawcett.

(Translation.)

ON the 10th August I went to Sultan Bayazid (mosque), and there a certain Khoja Moustafa Effendi preached as follows:—

After praying for Arabi Pasha, he said: “The English have brought us to this state, and even yet we continue to believe in these unbelieving treacherous infidels. The fault is ours, since if we had never paid attention to these Giaours, we should never have come to this position. Now the best thing to do is, for the future, to look upon the English as enemies and to assist Arabi. If he wants money, we should subscribe it; if he wants soldiers, we should all take up arms to help him. He is a man sent from God, and is destined to defend us Turks, the Faithful.”

After further words to this effect he brought his discourse to a close.

Again, in the evening of the 10th August, I went to Ayoub Sultan (mosque), and there the Chief Imam of the mosque, Hafiz Akif Effendi, addressed his audience, saying:—

“I have heard from some leading men that if the Egyptian crisis continues for some months longer arms will be obtained from the Government and given to all the Turks in Stamboul, and then not a European shall be spared. When such men (?)

use such language against the English, abusing them to such an extent, I hope that we shall not be behind-hand when the time comes, but are ready to do all we can."

He concluded his address, after other words to this effect, by praying for the success of Arabi.

[N.B.—Mr. Fawcett states nothing about the authorship of this document.—
ADAM BLOCK, *Translator.*]

No. 597.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 813. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 22, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a further telegram addressed by Arabi Pasha to the Prime Minister with regard to the affairs of Egypt, which has come into my hands.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 597.

Arabi Pasha to Saïd Pasha.

(Traduction.)

(Télégraphique.)

Le 1^{er} Août, 1882.

J'AI reçu votre télégramme chiffré en date du 28 Juillet dernier. Suivant le contenu de ce télégramme j'ai compris qu'il m'est ordonné de disperser les troupes Musulmanes qui ont pris les armes pour protéger le pays et la religion contre les agressions Anglaises, leurs attentats sauvages à l'honneur des femmes Musulmanes, et leurs actes de destruction, et de renoncer à la défense de la patrie avec toute l'humiliation et la honte qu'un tel acte comporte. Votre Altesse ajoute que si je n'obéis pas à cet ordre je donnerai lieu à des conséquences regrettables qui ne seraient pas à l'avantage des Musulmans, et que la responsabilité n'en peut rejaillir que sur moi.

Altesse! La décision unanime de l'Islam c'est de résister jusqu'à la fin ou bien de ne pas mettre bas les armes avant d'obtenir par l'aide de Dieu une paix honorable et de conclure un Traité excluant l'intervention étrangère.

J'ai déjà, à plusieurs reprises, exposé que je suis toujours prêt à me soumettre aux ordres de notre Seigneur et Maître Sa Majesté le Sultan, et je comptais sur son assistance Impériale. Malheureusement le contenu des télégrammes adressés par la Sublime Porte tant aux Notables de l'Égypte qu'à moi, ne font que confirmer les rumeurs, qui, arrivant de tous côtés, ne font que refroidir les sentiments d'attachement des Musulmans envers le Gouvernement Ottoman. En somme, vu le manque de temps, je ne vois pas la nécessité d'entrer dans plus de détails à cet égard, et je me borne seulement à vous annoncer qu'en nous appuyant sur l'assistance Divine pour protéger l'Égypte, nous avons infligé des défaites répétées à nos ennemis. Avec cela je possède une armée de 150,000 hommes en troupes de ligne et irrégulières; mes moyens de défense sont parfaits, et je persiste dans la décision de résister jusqu'à la fin. J'implore le Tout-Puissant qu'il ne permette pas que l'Islam soit humilié. Si nous ne parvenons pas à faire faire aux Anglais ce que nous voulons, c'est une honte et une humiliation que de mettre bas les armes. Si la Sublime Porte ne veut pas nous venir en aide, vu que maintenant nous n'avons pas beaucoup besoin de son assistance, j'espère qu'au moins, par égard au point de vue de l'Islam, elle ne viendra pas en aide aux infidèles. En cas contraire, je déclare à votre Altesse qu'une telle attitude ne pourra que provoquer les critiques de l'ennemi et la division de l'Islam.

No. 598.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 814.- Confidential.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 22, 1882.

I HAVE already given your Lordship a succinct account of the course of my negotiations with the Porte in regard to the Convention, and of my interview on the subject with the two Ministers of the Sultan who were appointed to meet me at Cabatash, together with the results at which we arrived.

In order to make the matter clearer, I now inclose, for your Lordship's information, in a tabulated form—

1. The original draft of the English Convention as transmitted to me by your Lordship.

2. The counter-project brought forward by the Turks during the course of my interview with them.

3. The text which the Ottoman Delegates expressed their willingness to accept *ad referendum* at Cabatash, and which I promised to submit to your Lordship; and

4. The subsequent modifications which they wished me to introduce into the foregoing, it is to be presumed at the instance of the Sultan, and which I declined even to discuss.

When agreeing to transmit to your Lordship the text contained in column No. 3, I told the Minister for Foreign Affairs that although Her Majesty's Government might perhaps be induced, in a spirit of conciliation and from deference to the Sultan's wishes to acquiesce in most of the modifications he desired, I was quite certain that your Lordship would maintain your views in regard to Aboukir, Damietta, or Rosetta being the proper places for the Turkish troops to land, as set forth in Article II, and that their suggestion in Article IV in reference to the prolongation of the Turkish occupation after the English troops had left, even though it was to be dependent upon our consent, would not be accepted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

PROPOSED Anglo-Turkish Military Convention.

Original English Proposals.	Original Turkish Counter-Project.	Text as accepted by Ottoman Delegates, <i>ad referendum.</i>	Modifications subsequently suggested, it is to be presumed, at the instance of His Imperial Majesty.
THE army of Egypt having revolted against the authority of His Highness the Khedive, as established under the Firmans of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, and the Treaties existing between the Sublime Porte and other Powers; and Her Majesty the Queen having resolved to co-operate with His Majesty in the suppression of the rebellion and the re-establishment of order, their said Majesties have seen fit to conclude a Convention for the purpose, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries: Who after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:— ARTICLE I. His Imperial Majesty the Sultan shall furnish a force of . . . men of all arms, ranks, and services complete, with supplies of ammunition, food, and transport, to co-operate with the force now being dispatched to Egypt by Her Majesty; and shall maintain the same complete in all respects, as long as it shall remain in Egypt. Should His Imperial Majesty desire at any time to increase his force, it shall be the subject of further agreement between the High Contracting Parties.	SA Majesté Impériale le Sultan et Sa Majesté Britannique ayant jugé nécessaire d'envoyer des troupes en Égypte, ont résolu de conclure une Convention Militaire, et ont nommé à cet effet: Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, Son Excellence Saïd Pasha, son Ministre des Affaires Étrangères; et Assim Pasha, son Ministre de l'Évac. Et Sa Majesté Britannique, son Excellence Lord Dufferin, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire de la Grande-Bretagne; Lesquels sont convenus des Articles suivants:— ARTICLE I. Le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman enverra successivement, et selon les besoins, sur les lieux, un corps d'armée qu'il se réserve d'augmenter si la nécessité se fait sentir.	L'ARMÉE d'Égypte s'étant révoltée contre l'autorité du Khédive, établie par les Firmans de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, et les Traités existants entre la Sublime Porte et les autres Puissances, Sa Majesté Britannique ayant résolu, d'accord avec Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, de réprimer cette révolte et de rétablir l'ordre en Égypte, Leurs dites Majestés ont décidé de conclure une Convention Militaire, et ont nommé à cet effet: ARTICLE I. Le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman, ayant l'intention d'envoyer un corps d'armée en Égypte, fixe le chiffre de la première division qui sera expédiée sur les lieux à 5,000 ou 6,000 hommes, en se réservant d'arriver au nombre nécessaire d'après une entente ultérieure à intervenir entre les Hautes Parties Contractantes.	ARTICLE I. Le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman ayant l'intention d'envoyer un corps d'armée en Égypte, fixe le chiffre de la première division qui se rendra sur les lieux à 5,000 ou 6,000 hommes. Il continuera, au fur et à mesure des besoins, à y envoyer les divisions restantes, en informant le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique de chacune de ses expéditions.

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Original English Proposals.	Original Turkish Counter-Project.	Text as accepted by Ottoman Delegates, <i>ad referendum.</i>	Modifications subsequently suggested, it is to be presumed, at the instance of His Imperial Majesty.
ARTICLE II. It being desirable that the place at which the Turkish troops should land should be determined beforehand, it is agreed that they shall disembark ARTICLE III. As it is absolutely necessary that the operations to be undertaken should be under one direction, it is agreed that the Turkish troops after disembarkation shall make no movements or disposition of any part of the troops without the previous assent of the Commander-in-chief of the British forces. ARTICLE IV. As soon as the occasion for which the troops of Her Majesty and of the Sultan have been dispatched to Egypt has passed, the troops of both the High Contracting Powers shall evacuate the country. The evacuation by the Turkish forces shall be simultaneous with that of the British forces. ARTICLE V. In order to facilitate the communications between the two armies, it is agreed that an English officer of rank shall be attached as Commissioner to the head-quarters of the Turkish forces.	ARTICLE II. Les troupes expéditionnaires Ottomanes débarqueront à Alexandrie, Port Saïd, et Suez. ARTICLE III. (À éliminer tout entier.) ARTICLE IV. Aussitôt que les motifs qui ont provoqué les mesures militaires en Égypte auront cessé d'exister, l'évacuation des troupes Anglaises aura lieu. Les troupes Ottomanes auront la faculté, s'il est jugé nécessaire, de prolonger leur séjour en Égypte. ARTICLE V. (Projet Ottoman accepté.) Dans le but de faciliter les communications entre les deux armées, il sera attaché à chacun d'elles un officier supérieur appartenant à l'autre. Ces deux officiers supérieurs auront le même grade.	ARTICLE II. à Aboukir, Damietta, ou Rosetta. (<i>Ad referendum</i> de part et d'autre.) Les Commandants-en-chef des deux corps d'armée s'entendront, au préalable, sur les mouvements et opérations militaires des troupes Impériales Ottomanes. (Projet intermédiaire pris <i>ad referendum</i>.) ARTICLE IV. Aussitôt que les motifs qui ont provoqué les mesures militaires en Égypte auront cessé d'exister, l'évacuation des troupes respectives aura lieu. Toutefois, les troupes Ottomanes auront la faculté, s'il est jugé nécessaire, de prolonger leur séjour en Égypte, à la suite d'une entente entre les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes. ARTICLE V. Projet Anglais	ARTICLE II. Les troupes Impériales Ottomanes débarqueront à Alexandrie, et feront de cette ville la base de leurs opérations. ARTICLE III. Les Commandants-en-chef des deux corps d'armée s'entendront, au préalable, sur les mouvements et opérations militaires. Toutefois, les deux corps d'armée devant opérer séparément en cas où le Commandant-en-chef Ottoman viendrait à constater que ses troupes ne se trouvent pas en nombre suffisant dans les localités occupées par elles, il arrêtera les opérations militaires jusqu'à ce qu'il reçoit les renforts nécessaires.

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Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 425. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 23, 1882.

THE Spanish Minister has several times spoken to Count Kálnoky about the exclusion of Spain from participation in the protection of the Suez Canal.

His Excellency, in reply, said that he did not think any such exclusion existed, for he had himself understood the meaning of the proposal of the Italian Government, though the wording of it was obscure, to be that all the maritime nations should take such measures as they thought necessary to protect their vessels on their passage through the Canal.

He admitted that in consequence of her possessions in the East, Spain had a more special interest in the security of the Canal than most other countries, and if any of the Plenipotentiaries were to propose to the Conference of Constantinople that upon this ground she should be invited to join in its protection, Baron Calice would be instructed to support the proposal.

M. Conte, the Spanish Minister, has also spoken to me on the subject, and seemed to be under the impression that what he regards as the exclusion of Spain was the doing of Her Majesty's Government. I said that in this I felt sure he was mistaken, as Her Majesty's Government had only concurred in a proposal made by others, and, though I did not know whether your Lordship considered the Corti resolution to apply to all or to the Great Powers alone, it was certain that no difficulty would be made to Spanish vessels being convoyed by their men-of-war through the Canal. This, he said, was already being done, so that the grievance appears a wholly sentimental one, unless the Spanish Government think that the present temporary understanding is to be followed by one of a more permanent nature, and hope to get a *locus standi* for taking part in concerting it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 600.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 426. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 23, 1882.

I TOOK occasion yesterday to ask Count Kálnoky, who had been blaming the Porte for its hesitations about proclaiming Arabi Pasha a rebel and about the Military Convention, whether he had any reason for supposing the Russian Government to have encouraged the Sultan's resistance. He said that he did not think this likely to have been the case, as M. de Giers had expressed himself desirous of seeing the Porte come to an agreement with Her Majesty's Government upon the two points, a statement which did not coincide with the information which Lord Dufferin had obtained and reported to your Lordship, but to which I made no allusion.

I observed, however, that it at least appeared certain that M. Nelidow had encouraged the Porte to endeavour to get the Military Convention submitted to the Conference, knowing, as he must, that if this was insisted upon the Convention could not be concluded, as Her Majesty's Government could not possibly consent to it.

Count Kálnoky replied that it was perfectly true that M. Nelidow had been bent upon endeavouring to get the Convention submitted to the Conference, and had spoken to him about it when he passed through Vienna on his way to Constantinople.

He had told M. Nelidow that the proposal was altogether unreasonable, and such as no Government, including, he was sure, that of Russia, would for a moment listen to if they were in the same position as that now occupied by England.

He had added that, even if Her Majesty's Government were not sure to object to the proposal, he did not see how it could be advocated by any of the Governments which had declined to give a *mandat* to England in order to avoid all responsibility for our acts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 337. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Berlin, August 25, 1882.

IN continuation of my immediately preceding despatch of this date, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that what Dr. Busch told me to-day about Prince Bismarck's views on the pretensions of the Suez Canal Company with regard to the toll question, was taken from a letter which the Chancellor had addressed to his Excellency, and which the latter had with him when he spoke to me on the subject.

I explained to Dr. Busch that Her Majesty's Government must not be supposed to have acquiesced in the Company's claim to enforce the toll in the case of vessels engaged in patrolling the Canal. If they had hitherto been induced to pay the charge, it was solely from a desire not to increase the difficulties which had already been created by the Company and its Director.

His Excellency said that Prince Bismarck quite understood this, and was much obliged to your Lordship for having so kindly ascertained for the German Government the information they were anxious to obtain on the subject of the tolls. At the same time the Chancellor held that it would be simply preposterous for the Company to expect that the Six Powers, who had made arrangements for the temporary protection of the Canal, would quietly consent to be taxed for a service which was to be undertaken solely in the interest of the Canal. On the contrary, the Company by rights ought to pay the expenses connected with such service, rather than exact payment from those performing it, and he should formally protest against such an inadmissible pretension, appealing, if necessary, to the proper Tribunals for support.

With respect to the proposed arrangements under the Italian project, Dr. Busch stated that when the Italian Ambassador had lately consulted him as to the plan for giving the Commanders the power of settling all details amongst themselves, he had pointed out to Count de Launay that the German Government regarded the plan as anything but a practical one, and that they should not agree to it until they had learnt how it was viewed by Her Majesty's Government.

They had, however, subsequently heard that your Lordship had not deemed it necessary to raise objections, and they would on this account accept the plan, but Prince Bismarck intended that the Commanders of the German vessels should be instructed to consider the national interests as perfectly secure and as requiring no special protection wherever Her Majesty's forces were.

This latter information I was asked to report to your Lordship very confidentially.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 602.

Sir J. Walsham to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 338.)

My Lord,

Berlin, August 25, 1882.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 361A of the 16th instant, I have the honour to state that shortly before Count Hatzfeldt went on leave, his Excellency, in alluding to the question of the tolls exacted by the Suez Canal Company from ships performing patrol duty, informed me that at the present moment, on the score of danger, there really appeared to be no absolute necessity for the "Möwe" to escort every German merchant-ship passing through the Canal.

Her Commander would probably, therefore, with the view of diminishing the expenditure of the service, be instructed to escort only such German merchantmen as asked for assistance. It is, however, possible that the Commander, out of courtesy, may have asked our Admiral whether, apart from the escort service, there was any further need for the "Möwe" to continue patrol duty, and that he may have been led to suppose there was none for the time being.

I venture to offer this as the probable explanation of M. Stamm's inquiry as to the continuance of the "Möwe's" services.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 603.

Saïd Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by Musurus Pasha, August 28.)

(Télégraphique.)

Constantinople, le 26 Août, 1882.

PAR suite de l'occupation par les troupes Anglaises d'El-Karasis, entre Ghaza et le Caire, nos communications télégraphiques avec l'Égypte, le Hédjaz, et le Yémen viennent d'être interrompues.

Vu les préjudices considérables qui résulteraient pour nous de cette interruption, je vous prie de faire auprès du Gouvernement Britannique des démarches pressantes en vue de provoquer l'envoi d'ordres immédiats à qui de droit pour le rétablissement de nos communications télégraphiques comme par le passé.

No. 604.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Sir J. Pauncefoot.—(Received August 28.)

Sir,

Admiralty, August 26, 1882.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of a telegram which has been received from Captain Rawson, R.N., Principal Transport Officer in Egypt, and to observe that as many of the steamers hired as transports for the conveyance of the force to Egypt have been diverted from Atlantic trade and are therefore not provided with Suez Canal certificates, it would entail a very heavy expense to send out an officer from the Board of Trade as suggested, and to keep the ships unemployed at Port Saïd while they are being measured.

2. The Regulations for the navigation of the Suez Maritime Canal issued by the Canal Company lay down "transitory provisions" under Article 11 to meet such cases, but the surtax of 4 fr. per ton on the net register tonnage, in addition to the usual charge of 10 fr. per ton, although perhaps not unreasonable for isolated cases, is, in my Lords' opinion, an addition to the expense of transit inapplicable to so extended a case as the present.

3. My Lords are informed that the tonnage calculated according to the Danube Rule is on the average about 5 per cent. in excess of the British register tonnage, and they would therefore suggest that the opinion of the British Directors of the Canal Company be obtained whether the Company would be disposed to entertain a proposal that in this exceptional case, in place of the regulated surtax, a surcharge of 5 per cent. over the British net register tonnage should be paid in the case of all unmeasured transports.

I am, &c.

(Signed) G. TRYON.

Inclosure in No. 604.

Captain Rawson to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(No. 21.)

(Telegraphic.)

August 24, 1882.

PERMISSION is requested by the Canal authorities to measure such ships as have not Suez Canal certificates, so as to ascertain their tonnage for payment. In case this permission is granted, it is requested that an officer from the Board of Trade may be sent to represent Her Majesty's Government.

No. 605.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 38.)

My Lord,

London, August 28, 1882.

We think it advisable to submit, for your Lordship's perusal, the inclosed copy of the Minutes of proceedings of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Suez Canal Company held on the 5th instant.

As already reported to your Lordship, we were unable to attend the meeting, but Mr. Standen was present, and for reasons which the *procès-verbal* sufficiently indicates, felt constrained to vote against the Resolution submitted to the meeting by M. Charles de Lesseps, instead of abstaining from recording his vote as he had previously intended.

We do not feel it necessary to offer any comments on the letter of M. Victor de Lesseps which was read to the Council. We can only express our regret at the tone of ill-will which it manifests against the English Government, and the continued misrepresentation of the principle of neutrality, as applied to the Suez Canal, which it indicates on the part of M. Ferdinand de Lesseps.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

C. RIVERS WILSON.
J. STOKES.

Inclosure in No. 605.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Suez Canal Company, held on the 5th August, 1882.

IL est donné connaissance au Conseil d'une dépêche par laquelle M. Fréville s'excuse de ne pouvoir assister à la séance.

M. Ch. A. de Lesseps donne lecture de la dépêche suivante du Président, arrivée peu d'heures après la dernière séance et qui, dit-il, confirme les déclarations qu'il a faites dans cette séance sur l'attitude du Président, eu égard à la question de la neutralité du Canal :—

"Ismailia, le 2 Août, 1882.

"Je pars pour Suez, envoyant à l'Amiral Hoskins la dépêche suivante :— 'J'apprends que le troisième convoi de débarquement Anglais à Suez passe par le chenal du Canal Maritime. C'est un acte de guerre qui constitue une violation flagrante de la neutralité du Canal et contre lequel je proteste formellement. L'opération de débarquement peut s'effectuer par le golfe comme l'ont fait les deux premiers convois, mais toute action de guerre dans la zone du Canal Maritime peut avoir pour la navigation générale du Canal les conséquences les plus graves, dont je rends hautement le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique responsable.'"

M. Ch. A. de Lesseps lit ensuite deux autres télégrammes et une lettre de M. Victor de Lesseps.

"Ismailia, le 2 Août, 1882.

"Depuis deux jours population de Suez évacuée sur Zagazig sans désordre sur invitation Arabi; 350 marins ont pris possession de la ville déserte sous prétexte d'y rétablir l'ordre. Heureuse l'Angleterre si ordre régnait en Irlande comme en Égypte, où elle seule est venue la troubler."

"Ismailia, le 3 Août, 1882.

"L'Amiral Anglais Port Saïd menace envoyer navires pour débarquer troupes à Chalouf. Vais préparer dragues et matériel rangés sur bord des berges barrer passage; au besoin je commanderai manœuvre. Les bouches du Nil peuvent servir aux ennemis des Égyptiens sans provoquer interruption de la navigation du Canal au commerce du monde."

"Port Saïd, le 26 Juillet, 1882.

"Je t'écris particulièrement, n'ayant pas le temps de faire une lettre officielle et une lettre particulière. Voilà cinq jours que je circule et il me reste à peine deux heures avant le départ du courrier.

"Le 21 à 5 heures du matin j'ai été réveillé à Ismailia par la nouvelle du débarquement de mon père qui, après être venu à Alexandrie sur les Messageries et y avoir passé une journée auprès du Khédive, arrivait à Port Saïd sur un Péninsulaire, le "Mongolia." Je sautais du lit et je me rendais à notre télégraphe.

"Je l'informais que l'hostilité d'Arabi n'était pas à craindre tant qu'on ne la provoquerait pas de ce côté et que tout débarquement, même de la France, pourrait attirer sur le Canal ce que l'on veut éviter; qu'il suffisait que la France se tint prête à nous protéger en cas de besoin, besoin que je ne prévoyais pas si l'Angleterre se tenait tranquille.

"Ismailia étant parfaitement tranquille et rassuré par la vue de l'avis Français

'Aspic,' en station depuis la veille, je suis parti pour Port Saïd le 21 à 10 heures du matin.

"J'ai trouvé mon père en parfaite santé; il comptait rester à Port Saïd. Il s'est décidé à parcourir de suite la ligne du Canal, bien que le personnel n'ait pas eu un instant de défaillance. Ces braves gens, qui ne se sont jamais plaints, avaient cependant besoin de le voir. Nous sommes partis le 22 pour Ismaïlia à 1 heure de l'après-midi. La veille nous avions dîné chez l'Amiral Français. Le matin mon père avait déclaré à l'Amiral Anglais, Hoskins, qui est à Port Saïd, lequel lui parlait d'un débarquement Anglais à Ismaïlia, qu'il ne permettrait jamais une telle violation de la neutralité du Canal et qu'il s'y opposerait de toutes ses forces.

"Pendant les quelques heures que j'ai passées à Port Saïd du 21 au 22 j'ai su combien j'avais eu raison de protester aussi énergiquement que je l'avais fait. La panique du 10 avait été organisée par les autorités Anglaises; ils avaient sur un navire en rade tout un personnel de chefs de gare et de télégraphistes prêts à nous remplacer. Dans cette éventualité ils arrêtaient la navigation, en attendant que l'état qu'ils espéraient se produisît. Ma protestation, qui en apparence pouvait paraître violente, était moins violente que l'acte que l'Angleterre allait commettre. Le renseignement sur le personnel Anglais prêt à nous remplacer a été donné à Desavary le 10 par un officier Anglais qui, ne le connaissant pas, lui a demandé dans la rue où étaient nos bureaux et notre télégraphe, les Anglais devant nous remplacer.

"Nous sommes arrivés à Ismaïlia le 22 pour dîner.

"Nous nous sommes arrêtés à toutes les gares et mon père a eu souvent les larmes aux yeux en voyant le calme de ces braves gens, isolés dans le désert, que le passage de plusieurs milliers d'émigrants et toutes les fausses nouvelles n'ont pu intimider. Avant de quitter Port Saïd mon père a télégraphié à Paris :

"'Arrivé à Port Saïd hier. Victor ici. Partons pour Ismaïlia et Suez. Tout comme en temps ordinaire, grâce à attitude de notre personnel. Arabi déclare respect neutralité Canal.'

"En effet, nous savons de source certaine qu'Arabi, comprenant très bien que s'il touchait au Canal il aurait contre lui non seulement l'Angleterre mais toute l'Europe, a déclaré qu'il serait le premier à le respecter. Tu vas voir que ses intentions à notre égard sont excellentes.

"Le 22, après déjeuner, nous avons quitté Ismaïlia pour Suez. Visites aux gares et même satisfaction de l'attitude du personnel qui, non seulement est calme, mais est plein de gaîté et d'entrain et rit de tous les bruits que l'on a fait circuler sur les Bédouins. Tous savent l'origine de ces bruits. Ils s'étonnent des navires Anglais qui, le 11, venant de Suez, ont passé matelassés, la passerelle blindée avec toutes les apparences de la frayeur.

"En route nous échangeons avec l'Amiral Conrad des dépêches au sujet de l'alimentation d'eau-douce du Canal. Je te les mets ci-joint, n'ayant pas le temps de les copier.

"À Suez nous recevons une dépêche d'Ismaïlia. Le Sous-Gouverneur informe mon père qu'Arabi lui offre une escorte de gendarmes ou de troupes pour l'accompagner partout où il voudra; que s'il veut aller dans l'intérieur il le prie de le prévenir; que des ordres seront donnés pour son escorte et sa réception.

"Mon père te télégraphie alors de suite pour t'informer de ces bonnes dispositions d'Arabi.

"Nous recevons la visite des Commandants Anglais des deux navires Anglais en station à Suez. Ils sont fort polis. Nous tâchons de leur faire comprendre que l'Angleterre commettrait une grave faute pour ses propres intérêts si elle débarquait des troupes à Suez.

"Nous recevons la visite du Gouverneur, un excellent homme qui, au dire de tous, a veillé jour et nuit à la sécurité des Européens. Il est fort perplexe entre les ordres du Khédive et ceux d'Arabi.

"Nous rendons la visite aux Commandants Anglais et allons à bord du navire Français 'Voltigeur'.

"Nous allons dans la ville de Suez, qui a l'aspect de la désolation—plus un seul Européen! Beaucoup de familles indigènes parties. Nous faisons visite au Gouverneur, et allons à l'Usine des Eaux. M. Roche est resté à son poste malgré la pression incessante du Consul Anglais et des Commandants Anglais. Il a eu un instant de défaillance et est venu coucher deux nuits au terre-plein. Mais il a compris sa faute et a déclaré aux autorités Anglaises qu'il devait rester fidèle à la Compagnie, qui le fait vivre, et qu'il n'a pas à balancer. La situation de M. Roche était d'autant plus difficile

qu'il est Anglais. Le Gouverneur m'a, d'ailleurs, assuré que M. Roche ne courait aucun danger et que s'il devait en courir, il le préviendrait.

"Nous apprenons à Suez par dépêche de Port Saïd qu'Ismaïl Hamdy, qui ne veut pas obéir à Arabi, craint pour sa vie, et qu'il va se mettre en sûreté à bord d'un navire. Ces craintes lui sont suggérées par le Vice-Consul Anglais, et c'est de cet Agent que viennent les conseils de fuite.

"Le 25 à 5 heures du matin nous quittons Suez. Nous apprenons en arrivant à Ismaïlia qu'Ismaïl Hamdy s'est sauvé avec sa famille à bord d'un Péninsulaire; il est remplacé par le Commandant de la force armée, sur l'ordre d'Arabi. Nous partons de suite pour Port Saïd, prévoyant que la fuite du Gouverneur peut être cause de grands malheurs, et que cette circonstance peut servir de prétexte à un débarquement.

"Nous arrivons à 8 heures du soir à Port Saïd. Nous allons de suite voir l'Amiral Conrad et nous apprenons que sur la demande de Dobignie, de Convidon et Lesieur, députés de la nation, l'Amiral a prévenu l'Amiral Anglais qu'il allait débarquer 300 hommes. Les Anglais naturellement se préparent à en faire autant. Déjà 20 soldats Allemands sont au Consulat d'Allemagne. Mon père déclare qu'il ne permettra jamais cette violation de la neutralité du Canal. Il se rend chez Dobignie, et obtient de lui le retrait d'une lettre qu'il a adressée à l'Amiral pour demander le débarquement. Il fait venir le nouveau Gouverneur, qui vient près de lui avec empressement. Il lui dit qu'il veut empêcher le débarquement des étrangers et lui affirme qu'il l'empêchera si lui, Gouverneur et Commandant de la force armée, lui donne sa parole que les Européens n'ont rien à craindre. Le Gouverneur lui affirme qu'il répond des Européens sur sa tête, et qu'Arabi lui a télégraphié que sa vie dépendait du maintien de l'ordre public. Il craint seulement les excitations que les Anglais ne cessent de fomenter. Il cite ce fait que dernièrement deux Maltais ont jeté des pierres à un Arabe qui faisait sa prière. Il ajoute, cependant, qu'il a donné des ordres les plus sévères pour que les indigènes ne répondent pas à ces provocations. Arabi lui a écrit de punir de la façon la plus sévère tout indigène qui insulterait un Européen.

"La nuit s'est bien passée. Le matin mon père t'a télégraphié :—

"'Khédive et agents étrangers étaient mal informés sur Port Saïd, Ismaïlia, et Suez. Sécurité et neutralité complètes respectées partout. Tout débarquement, loin d'être nécessaire, serait dangereux aujourd'hui. Provoque ordre Marine pour me laisser juge de la situation aux entrées et sur toute la ligne du Canal Maritime, certains Consuls étant disposés à provoquer panique sans cause avouable.'

"Après t'avoir envoyé cette dépêche mon père est allé voir l'Amiral Hoskins, qui ne lui a pas caché qu'il n'attendait que le débarquement des Français pour en faire un, et qu'il espérait que l'escadre Française recevrait incessamment l'ordre de débarquement. Mon père lui a répondu qu'il était convaincu que la France ne s'associerait pas à l'Angleterre en cette circonstance et qu'il était prêt à en faire le pari. L'Amiral a répondu qu'il parierait volontiers des actions du Canal.

"En empêchant le débarquement de la France, hier, mon père a évité un grand malheur. Les indigènes étaient fort émus, la population Européenne très agitée, et les troupes Européennes n'auraient pas empêché les rixes, le pillage ou l'incendie, qui auraient été la conséquence du débarquement. Cette nuit 300 indigènes ont abandonné le village Arabe, et le nouveau Gouverneur vient de prier mon père de venir avec lui au village pour rassurer la population, qui est très effrayée.

"Il y a en ce moment à Ismaïlia deux navires de guerre: la 'Thétis,' Française, et le 'Carysfort,' Anglais, tous deux cuirassés. Rouville me télégraphie que la population indigène est très épouvantée par l'arrivée du 'Carysfort.'

"Un aviso Anglais, 'Coquette,' et un cuirassé, 'Orion,' viennent de demander l'entrée pour Ismaïlia en payant. Mon père a fait dire par Desavary qu'Ismaïlia était une gare et non un port; qu'il y avait déjà deux navires de guerre, et qu'un plus grand nombre de navires de guerre en station dans la gare était de nature à encombrer et à gêner la circulation des bateaux en transit. 'L'Orion' s'est fait inscrire pour Suez.

"Les Allemands qui avaient débarqué ce matin sont revenus à bord et le Commandant est venu s'excuser auprès de l'Amiral Conrad.

"Mon père a reçu d'Arabi, aujourd'hui, la dépêche suivante :—

"'Le Gouvernement Égyptien respecte le Canal, qui est votre bonne œuvre; il est de son devoir de le protéger et ne permettre à personne de le toucher, tant que la Puissance qui nous fait la guerre ne l'approche pas; et comme la sécurité et la tran-

quillité règnent à Port Saïd, aucune Puissance ne doit débarquer ses troupes dans la ville de Port Saïd, et si une des Puissances débarque, elle aura violé les Traités et n'aura pas respecté les droits de la sécurité.

“Recevez, &c.
(Signé) “Le Ministre de la Guerre et de la Marine.”

“Nous revenons du village Arabe où mon père a été l'objet d'une ovation. Le Gouverneur a prêté son cheval à mon père et nous avons passé une demi-heure au milieu des Ulémas et des Notables, qui ont supplié mon père d'empêcher un débarquement qui les ruinerait tous en les obligeant à partir. Mon père leur a donné sa parole que tant qu'il serait à Port Saïd, les Français ne débarqueraient pas. L'Amiral Conrad nous a dit aujourd'hui que, tout en reconnaissant combien un débarquement serait fâcheux, il serait obligé de le faire s'il en recevait l'ordre.

“Mon père t'a télégraphié :—

“Amiral Anglais m'ayant déclaré qu'il ne ferait pas débarquer sans être précédé par marine Française, et débarquement pouvant causer ruine de Port Saïd, j'ai dû rassurer la nombreuse population Arabe, sans laquelle nous serions forcés d'interrompre nos travaux. En présence des Ulémas et des Notables, j'ai juré que pas un Français ne débarquera tant que je serai ici, et que je me rendais garant de la tranquillité publique et de la neutralité de notre Canal universel. Le Gouvernement de mon pays ne me démentira pas.”

“En résumé, voici la situation : aucune crainte à avoir s'il n'y a pas de débarquement.

“Les Anglais font aujourd'hui des préparatifs sur leurs navires. Est-ce pour effrayer ? ou bien se disposent-ils à agir à Ismaïlia, ou à Suez ? J'entends dire que l'Amiral Hoskins aurait l'intention de partir demain avec son cuirassé “Penelope” pour Ismaïlia ou Suez.

“Mon père reste à Port Saïd pour consolider la tranquillité. Il m'envoie à Ismaïlia. Je pars demain matin à 5 heures.

“Cette vie, en apparence fatigante, me réussit. Je me porte à merveille, malgré la chaleur.

“Il y a quelques jours je vous ai télégraphié pour avoir 200 sacs de farine. En effet, excepté à Port Saïd, les boulangers n'en ont plus que pour quelques jours à Ismaïlia et à Suez. Il est impossible d'en faire venir de l'intérieur. Les communications deviennent de plus en plus difficiles.

“Arabi vient de nommer Gouverneur de Port Saïd Ibrahim Ruchdy, qui a déjà été Gouverneur. Ce choix prouve de bonnes intentions, Ruchdy ayant toujours rempli ses fonctions à la satisfaction de tous.

“Ci-joint un ordre du jour que mon père a envoyé de Suez sur toute la ligne :—

“Ordre du jour aux personnels de l'Agence Supérieure, des Services du Transit, de l'Entretien, du Domaine et des Eaux, du Télégraphe, des Capitaines Marins, et Chefs de Gare isolés sur tout le parcours du Canal :—

“Après avoir parcouru toute la ligne de notre Canal Maritime, je vous félicite de l'attitude ferme et énergique que vous avez constamment maintenue au milieu des terribles événements qui désolent l'Égypte. Vous avez résisté sans une seule exception aux paniques qui ont été les principales causes de tant de désastres. Vous avez maintenu la neutralité du Canal Maritime ; après avoir créé, vous avez conservé. La Compagnie universelle vous en sera reconnaissante ; son Conseil d'Administration saura vous en récompenser.

“Suez, le 24 Juillet, 1882.

“Le Président,
(Signé) “FERD. DE LESSEPS.”

“Une nouvelle dépêche reçue hier est ainsi conçue :—

“Lesseps, Paris.

“Ismaïlia, le 4 Août, 1882, 4 h. 40 m. matin.

“Amiral Anglais Port Saïd m'écrit qu'il est décidé à prendre, malgré mes protestations, telle mesure qu'il jugera nécessaire pour occuper le Canal. Il donna à cette occupation le prétexte de la protection, et pour faire cesser mon opposition, il me communique une lettre du Khédive qui lui donne tout pouvoir pour agir sur Canal. Je lui déclare que le Canal ne court aucun danger de la part d'Arabi, qui m'a donné jusqu'à présent de nombreuses preuves d'humanité, et qu'une occupation Anglaise du

Canal, loin de protéger la navigation, ne peut que la compromettre, en donnant à Arabi l'exemple de la violation de la neutralité qu'il a respectée jusqu'ici. Je suis décidé à m'opposer à tout acte de guerre par le Canal, et vu les énormes capitaux Français engagés dans notre entreprise, je ne me soumettrai qu'à une décision du Gouvernement Français, provoquée par le Conseil d'Administration ; je le prie de se réunir immédiatement.

(Signé) “FERDINAND DE LESSEPS.”

M. Charles A. de Lesseps remarque que, lorsque son père dit qu'il ne se soumettrait qu'à une décision du Gouvernement Français, provoquée par le Conseil, en même temps qu'il montre une résolution très énergique de résister aux prétentions de l'Amiral Anglais, il est évident qu'il veut surtout indiquer qu'il faudrait beaucoup de motifs réunis pour qu'il se décidât à renoncer à sa résistance. Nous nous sommes toujours placés, jusqu'ici, au point de vue élevé des intérêts du commerce du monde. À côté de ce point de vue, il pourrait y avoir celui des actionnaires. Or, il y a deux catégories d'actionnaires : le Gouvernement Anglais qui agit de son côté, et les actionnaires Français.

M. Charles A. de Lesseps ne pense pas qu'aucun des Administrateurs voudrait abandonner le Président dans la lutte qu'il poursuit. Il soumet en conséquence au Conseil un projet de Résolution.

Le Conseil, réuni le 5 Août sur la convocation télégraphique de son Président en date d'Ismaïlia, 4 Août, lui transmet la réponse suivante :—

“Le Khédive, dont le pouvoir n'a pas été jugé suffisant pour réunir, sans l'autorisation du Sultan, la Méditerranée à la Mer Rouge, ne peut avoir une autorité plus étendue lorsqu'il s'agit de porter atteinte aux stipulations formelles du texte de la Concession.

“L'accord même des auteurs de la Concession ne pourrait modifier l'engagement solennel qu'ils ont contracté envers le monde entier en déclarant la neutralité du Canal de Suez.

“Le maintien de cette neutralité, jusqu'ici respectée, et qui exclut tout acte de guerre dans le Canal, constitue pour la Compagnie une obligation qui est la base de sa Concession.

“Notre Compagnie Égyptienne, &c., &c.*
. le personnel de la Compagnie.”

Mr. Standen.—Étant sans instructions de mon Gouvernement je ne peux pas discuter la manière de voir de l'Angleterre en ce qui concerne la neutralité du Canal. Il me semble que la question de neutralité n'a jamais été bien étudiée par aucune Puissance de l'Europe jusqu'ici.

M. Charles de Lesseps nous a dit Mardi passé que la France et l'Allemagne surtout ont reconnu la neutralité du Canal, et il a cité ce fait, que pendant la guerre Franco-Allemande il y avait des bâtiments de guerre d'Allemagne et de France dans le Canal en même temps et qu'ils ne se sont pas combattus. C'était une preuve déjà de leur acceptation de la neutralité. Mais de même nous savons tous très bien qu'il n'y a que quelques jours que le Gouvernement de la France s'était décidé de débarquer des troupes à Port Saïd.

Or, ou le Gouvernement de la France n'observe pas la neutralité du Canal ou bien il ne considérerait pas le débarquement des troupes comme une violation de cette neutralité. Ce n'était pas la question de neutralité qui a empêché ce débarquement.

L'Allemagne également, en débarquant quelques soldats à Port Saïd, ne croyait pas violer la neutralité du Canal.

Tout ce que je désire faire comprendre c'est que la question de la neutralité est visée différemment. Ce n'est pas encore bien étudiée. Il y a des Puissances qui ne sont pas d'accord sur ce que veut dire neutralité—passage neutre—mentionné dans la Concession. Sur ce point c'est à chacun des Puissances de faire son appréciation. Je ne connais pas l'opinion de l'Angleterre sur ce point, et je ne peux pas m'associer au vote que l'on propose actuellement.

Nous avons soumis à notre Gouvernement les définitions de la neutralité telle qu'elle est visée par M. le Président et M. Charles de Lesseps.

Jusqu'à présent nous n'avons pas eu de réponse, mais j'espère que nous en aurons une bientôt.

M. Charles de Lesseps.—La question qui est posée par mon père est soumise au

* Ici suit le reste de la Résolution.

Conseil d'Administration et non au Représentant du Gouvernement de la Reine. Par conséquent, nous ne sommes pas étonnés que le Représentant du Gouvernement de la Reine cesse d'être Administrateur dans cette circonstance. Je vous demanderai la permission de ne pas suivre dans la discussion des principes que vous venez d'émettre, par une raison très simple: c'est que nous n'avons à apprécier ni les pensées ni les projets des divers Gouvernements. Nous sommes en présence d'actes du Gouvernement Anglais. Nous ne savons pas ce que tel ou tel Gouvernement aurait pu faire. Nous ne savons qu'une chose: c'est ce que fait votre Gouvernement; nous n'avons pas à nous demander ce que nous aurions fait si d'autres Gouvernements avaient eu la même conduite—ce qui est plus qu'improbable. Nous sommes en présence de votre Gouvernement, qui affirme qu'il vient protéger un canal qui n'a pas besoin de protection.

Il a donc un autre but que la protection du Canal, et selon nous, il violerait la neutralité du Canal en agissant comme ses Agents l'annoncent.

Nous sommes, à cet égard, en harmonie absolue d'idées avec le Président, et nous constatons, dans le projet de réponse soumis au Conseil, que cette harmonie existe.

Il n'y a pas d'autre question que celle-là.

Le projet de Résolution est ensuite mis aux voix et adopté à l'unanimité, sauf une voix, celle de Mr. Standen.

M. de Gontaut dit que la lettre de l'Agent Supérieur qui vient d'être lue est de haut intérêt et dramatiquement intéressante. Il croit qu'il serait très important que des extraits aussi étendus que possible de cette lettre fussent connus du public pour que chacun sache dans quel sens a marché la Compagnie du Canal de Suez et à qui incombe la responsabilité.

Mr. Standen.—Il peut être intéressant que le Conseil prenne connaissance des paroles suivantes qui ont été dites au Parlement à propos de l'action de l'Angleterre au Canal de Suez:—

“Mr. Norwood demande au Premier Lord de la Trésorerie s'il peut assurer la Chambre que, dans les mesures à prendre pour la protection du Canal de Suez, il n'y a pas l'intention de porter atteinte à son administration actuelle, ou à priver le Canal de sa position d'entreprise commerciale.

“Mr. Gladstone.—En réponse à la question de mon honorable ami, je puis assurer la Chambre que, dans les mesures qui sont proposées pour la protection du Canal de Suez, il n'y a nullement question de ce qui concerne son administration, sa position comme entreprise commerciale, ni son caractère international. Le seul but poursuivi est la sécurité du Canal et la liberté du passage à travers du Canal.”

M. de Mondésir.—M. Charles A. de Lesseps a déclaré de la manière la plus catégorique, à la dernière séance, que nous avions tous confiance dans le Gouvernement Anglais au point de vue des intérêts matériels qui sont engagés dans la Compagnie. Ceci montre qu'en protestant nous nous inspirons, comme il a été expliqué dans la dernière séance, d'un tout autre sentiment, et que nous ne regardons pas aux intérêts particuliers mais aux intérêts internationaux.

M. Charles A. de Lesseps.—Nous ne jugerons les faits qu'au fur et à mesure qu'ils se présentent, et le Conseil prend acte volontiers des assurances qui lui sont données pour l'avenir.

La séance est levée.

No. 606.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28, 8.40 A.M.)

(No. 376.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 27, 1882, 11.55 P.M.

SAID and ASSIM PASHAS called upon me this afternoon to say that they were ready to accept the text of the Convention as sent your Lordship in my telegram No. 350. They no longer desired to insist upon their modification of Clause IV, to the effect that the Turkish [?] troops should remain behind after the English had evacuated the country, and they accepted Aboukir as the place of disembarkation; nor would they press any of their subsequent amendments. They added that, before the Convention was signed, they would communicate officially the Proclamation amended in the way I had desired, and would at once order, through the Khedive, its publication in Egypt in the name of the Sultan.

Saïd Pasha then informed me that, although they by no means wished to make any condition, their military authorities hoped that England, as a favour, would still allow their troops to land at Alexandria, in the neighbourhood of Ramleh, on the understanding that they were to march forthwith upon Aboukir; Aboukir being in the possession of the enemy, they would have to begin with a bombardment, which they were not prepared to undertake. This request, however, Saïd Pasha reiterated, was merely made as a prayer, and not as a demand.

I replied that it was very much to be regretted that the conclusion their Excellencies had now announced had not long since been arrived at; that events had marched very rapidly in Egypt since we had negotiated the text of the Convention at Cabatash [sic] nine days ago. Since then many painful incidents had occurred, indicating very unfriendly feelings towards England on the part of the Ottoman Government, while, on the other hand, the progress of the campaign in Egypt had been so rapid and successful as to render probable its speedy conclusion. Under these circumstances, my Government had telegraphed to me to-day (Sunday), a very short time before their Excellencies' arrival, that, in their opinion, the Convention had now become superfluous, and that it was not desirable that I should continue negotiations, which, instead of promoting the friendly relations we were desirous of maintaining with the Porte, no matter whether the Convention was agreed to or not, seemed only to produce irritation and misunderstanding.

Such being the character of my last instructions, it was impossible for me now to continue discussing it. I would, however, acquaint my Government with the nature of their Excellencies' communication, in case they should desire to modify what I apprehended to be their decision.

From the foregoing statement of what has passed between the Turkish Plenipotentiaries and myself, your Lordship will perceive that Her Majesty's Government is at liberty to pursue whatever course it pleases, either to accept the Convention, and with it the Proclamation, or to refuse the former, in which case we shall have to do without the latter, for I do not think the Porte could be induced to issue the Proclamation if their co-operation is rejected. I do not presume to offer an opinion as to which alternative is the most desirable. If the Sultan was a more trustworthy or reasonable person, there would be every probability that joint action in Egypt might result in drawing closer the bonds of an alliance with Turkey, which might prove most useful to us; but it is impossible to calculate upon His Majesty acting in a way which either his obligations, his honour, or his most obvious interests may require. If we were only dealing with the Porte, our course would be clearer; but though the two Saïds deserve great credit for having carried both the Proclamation and the Convention against tremendous opposition on the part of the Palace party and of the military chiefs, who spent all last night in advocating very desperate courses, it cannot be expected that their counsels will always prevail.

No. 607.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 28.)

(No. 839. Confidential. Ext. 376.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 27, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that Saïd and Assim Pashas called upon me this afternoon to say that they were ready to accept the text of the Convention as transmitted to your Lordship in my despatch No. 796 of the 19th instant. They no longer desired to persist in their modification of Clause IV, to the effect that the Turkish troops should remain behind after the English had evacuated the country, and they accepted Aboukir as the place of disembarkation; nor would they press any of their subsequent amendments. They added that before the Convention was signed they would communicate officially the Proclamation amended in the way I had desired, and would at once, through the Khedive, order its publication in Egypt in the name of the Sultan.

Saïd Pasha then informed me that, although they by no means wished to make any condition, their military authorities hoped that England, as a favour, would still allow their troops to land at Alexandria, in the neighbourhood of Ramleh, on the understanding that they were to march forthwith upon Aboukir; Aboukir being in the possession of the enemy, they would have to begin by a bombardment, which

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From the foregoing statement of what has passed between the Turkish Plenipotentiaries and myself, your Lordship will perceive that Her Majesty's Government is at liberty now to pursue whatever course it pleases, either to accept the Convention, and with it the Proclamation, or to refuse the former, in which case we shall have to do without the latter, for I do not think that the Porte could be induced to issue the Proclamation if their co-operation is rejected. I do not presume to offer an opinion as to which alternative is most desirable. If the Sultan was a more trustworthy or reasonable person, there would be every probability that our joint action in Egypt might result in drawing closer the bonds of an alliance with Turkey which might prove most useful to us; but it is impossible to calculate upon His Majesty acting in a way which either his obligations, his honour, or his most obvious interests may require. If we were only dealing with the Porte, our course would be clearer; but though the two Saïds deserve great credit for having carried both the Proclamation and the Convention against a tremendous opposition upon the part of the Palace party and of the military chiefs, who spent all last night in advocating very desperate courses, it cannot be expected that their counsels will always prevail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 608.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28, 10.45 A.M.)

(No. 420.)
(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 28, 1882, 8.30 A.M.

THE Khedive has appointed Sultan Pasha, President of the Chamber of Deputies, to be his Civil Commissioner to accompany General Wolseley in the advance to Cairo. His Excellency leaves for Ismailia to-night.

No. 609.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 28.)

(No. 571. Ext. 420.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 28, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to report that Sultan Pasha, President of the Chamber of Notables, has been appointed by the Khedive to be His Highness' Civil Commissioner to accompany General Sir Garnet Wolseley in his advance to Cairo. His Excellency starts to-night for Ismailia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 610.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28, 1.15 P.M.)

(No. 421.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 28, 1882, 11 A.M.

I HAVE received a note from Chérif Pasha to the following effect: The Egyptian Government has decided that, until further notice, no persons without means of subsistence not having domicile in Egypt shall be admitted. Workmen in search of employment shall only be admitted in cases where they shall have been engaged by a master or a known employer.

No. 611.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 435.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882, 3.10 P.M.

WITH reference to Moncrieff's despatch No. 12 of 20th ultimo, Admiralty wish to know whether it is desirable, in the interests of the Khedive, and if it is the wish of His Highness, that Souakin and other Egyptian ports on the Red Sea should be visited by Her Majesty's ships and their allegiance assured.

No. 612.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 286. Ext. 435.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.

WITH reference to Mr. Acting Consul Moncrieff's despatch No. 21 of the 2nd instant to you, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter from the Board of Admiralty,* stating that their Lordships would be glad to know whether it is considered desirable, in the interests of the Khedive, and if it is His Highness' wish, that Souakin and other ports on the Egyptian coast of the Red Sea should be visited by Her Majesty's ships, and their allegiance to the Government of the Khedive assured.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 613.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28, 3.15 P.M.)

(No. 422.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 28, 1882, 1.30 P.M.

MY telegram No. 417 of the 26th instant.

The Porte has published an order forbidding all enrolment in Turkish provinces for the Khedive, stating that persons who recruit for his service, or who enter it, will be severely punished. The Khedive has telegraphed to his Agent at Constantinople to protest against this unfriendly act.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

No. 614.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 28.)

(No. 574. Ext. 422.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 28, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 568 of the 26th instant, I have the honour to report that the Khedive informed me this morning that an order has been published by the Porte forbidding the enrolment from the Turkish provinces of persons for His Highness' service, and adding that his Agents employed on this mission and those who enter his service will be severely punished.

* Admiralty, August 24, 1882.

In consequence of this order, the Khedive has telegraphed to his Agent at Constantinople instructing him to protest against the unfriendly act of the Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 615.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28, 3.19 P.M.)

(No. 107.)
(Telegraphic.)

Rome, August 28, 1882, 12.30 P.M.

LORD DUFFERIN'S No. 365 of 24th instant.

There is no one here from whom I can ascertain if Russian Government is endeavouring to get Italian Government to join in insisting on Convention being communicated to Conference; but after distinct declaration to me by Minister for Foreign Affairs, as reported in my telegram No. 101 of the 15th instant, that Count Corti had been desired to tell Turkish Ministers that there was no necessity to lay result of negotiations respecting Convention, whatever it might be, before Conference, I can hardly believe that his Excellency will now be induced to act in directly contrary sense.

[?] again gone to Capo di Monte, and Secretary-General on leave.

No. 616.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 546.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882, 3.40 P.M.

AUSTRIAN Chargé d'Affaires has asked whether you have received instructions to make a formal declaration to the Conference in the sense of the last paragraph of the identic telegram of the 14th August; and I hereby give you the requisite authority to act with your colleagues when the occasion arises.

No. 617.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 528. Ext. 546.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.

THE Austrian Chargé d'Affaires has inquired whether you have been instructed to make a formal declaration to the Conference relative to the suspension of its sittings in accordance with the suggestion contained in the last paragraph of the identic telegram of the 14th August.

Your Excellency is hereby authorized to act with your colleagues in this matter when the occasion for doing so presents itself.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 618.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 436.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882, 4.45 P.M.

THE General's proposal to deliver prisoners of war to the Khedive is approved, but you will obtain a previous engagement that none will be put to death without our consent.

No. 619.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 287. Ext. 436.)

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.

Sir,

WITH reference to your telegram No. 408 of the 22nd instant, I have to state that the proposal of General Sir Garnet Wolseley to hand over to the Khedive all prisoners of war taken in course of the present military operations in Egypt is approved by Her Majesty's Government.

You will, however, obtain from His Highness a previous engagement that none of them shall be put to death without the consent of the British authorities.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 620.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 547.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882, 6.25 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 376 of yesterday.

We accept the Convention as sent in your telegram No. 350 of the 19th instant, on the following preliminary conditions:—

1. Immediate release of animals, supplies, and persons for the British army, and a promise to aid in forwarding them to Egypt.
2. Assurance that no impediment will hereafter be offered.
3. Immediate issue of the Proclamation.
4. British officers to be sent to concert modes of operation with the Turkish officers at Crete or Constantinople, as the Porte may prefer.

No. 621.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 529. Ext. 547.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.

I HAVE received your telegram No. 376 of yesterday, and I have to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government are prepared to agree to the Military Convention, as set forth in your telegram of the 19th instant, on the following preliminary conditions:—

1. That the animals, supplies, and persons for the British expedition be immediately released, and a promise be given by the Porte to assist in forwarding the same to Egypt.
2. That an assurance be given that no further impediments will be offered hereafter.
3. That the Proclamation declaring Arabi a rebel be issued immediately.
4. That British officers, who would be sent either to Crete or Constantinople, as the Porte may prefer, should concert with Turkish officers as to the military operations to be undertaken.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 622.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 548.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882, 6.45 P.M.

TAKE steps at once to obtain complete information as to the whereabouts of ships with Turkish troops, stores, &c., with detail of the regiments and corps embarked which have been dispatched for employment in Egypt. This information will

be required by the War Office in the event of the Military Convention being acted upon.

No. 623.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Sir J. Pauncefote.—(Received August 28.)

Sir, *Admiralty, August 28, 1882.*
I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you the inclosed copies of a telegram received from Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour on the 27th instant, No. 201, and I am to request that you will move Earl Granville to communicate with the English Directors of the Suez Canal with a view to their advising their Lordships upon the points raised.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

Inclosure in No. 623.

Admiral Sir B. Seymour to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(No. 201.)
(Telegraphic.) *Port Said, August 27, 1882, 10:55 P.M.*
CANAL Company's agent presses for settlement of dues for discharged transports and troops as passengers.

No. 624.

Sir R. Thompson to Sir J. Pauncefote.—(Received August 28.)

(Confidential.)
Sir, *War Office, August 28, 1882.*
I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you the inclosed copy of a telegram which has been dispatched from this Department with regard to affairs in Egypt.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RALPH THOMPSON.

Inclosure in No. 624.

Mr. Childers to General Sir G. Wolseley.

(Telegraphic.) *War Office, August 26, 1882.*
ARRANGE with Admiral and Malet for absolute censorship over all telegrams from and to Alexandria, not press only. Allow cypher telegrams to Ministers of European Powers, but not to the Porte or to any one else.

No. 625.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Walsham.

(No. 371 A. Confidential.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.*
I COMMUNICATED confidentially to the German Chargé d'Affaires to-day, for the information of Prince Bismarck, the terms on which Her Majesty's Government have authorized Lord Dufferin to conclude with the Porte a Military Convention in regard to the dispatch of Turkish troops to Egypt.

A copy of the draft Convention with the preliminary conditions attached to it is inclosed for your information.

I told M. Stumm that the telegram from Lord Dufferin announcing that the Porte

had finally agreed to the draft as it now stands had crossed one in which I informed him that, in view of the unfriendly action of the Turkish Government in stopping the export of mules purchased in Syria for the use of the British army, and imprisoning the men hired to accompany them, it was impossible to continue the negotiation respecting the Convention, even if the delay which had occurred in the negotiation of it and the progress of events had not now made it superfluous.

This conclusion had been forced upon Her Majesty's Government by the conduct of the Porte, but bearing in mind [among other considerations the opinion which has been expressed by the Governments of Europe, and especially by that of Germany, in favour of Turkish intervention in Egypt, they determined at the last moment to reverse their previous decision and to agree to the Convention in the form in which, after prolonged discussions and considerable amendments, it has been accepted by the Porte.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 626.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Walsham.

E
(No. 371 B. Confidential.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.*

THE German Chargé d'Affaires called upon me this afternoon and told me that although Prince Bismarck had agreed to the proposal of the Italian Government, that the Naval Commanders of the various countries on the spot should communicate together and arrange the necessary service for the protection of the Suez Canal, he thought this proceeding was now devoid of any practical utility, and indeed somewhat absurd, considering that the whole shore of the Canal was in occupation of the British forces, and consequently secured from the dangers against which it was desired to make provision. The Italian Government, however, seemed eager to go on with the plan, and as Her Majesty's Government had offered no objection, Prince Bismarck had not thought it necessary to make any himself.

I thanked M. Stumm for this communication, and said that nothing could have been more friendly than Prince Bismarck's conduct throughout this affair. I added that I rather shared His Highness' views as to the proposal of the Italian Government under present circumstances, but that it seemed harmless, and as we had previously given our assent to it in principle, we did not wish to appear to draw back from it, or to make difficulties now that it was proposed to put it in operation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 627.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Thornton.

(No. 267. Confidential.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.*
THE Russian Chargé d'Affaires called upon me this afternoon. He told me that he had received a letter from M. de Giers repeating that the Russian Government adhered to the policy which they had already announced in regard to the Egyptian question. As the letter contained no fresh statement of principles, he did not think it necessary to make it the subject of a formal communication.

M. Davydow then asked me whether I had any communication to make to him.

I replied in the negative.

He asked me whether the Military Convention between England and Turkey had been signed.

I said that it had not.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.(No. 260. Confidential.)
Sir,*Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.*

THE Austrian Chargé d'Affaires called upon me at the Foreign Office this afternoon, and asked me whether it was true that the Military Convention between England and the Porte had been signed.

I said that such was not at present the case.

M. de Hengelmüller remarked that it was reported from Constantinople that the Turkish Plenipotentiaries had accepted its main provisions, and had withdrawn their recent amendments.

I answered that this was so, but that other questions remained, and that, for the moment, I could tell him no more than that the Convention was not concluded.

A remark which M. de Hengelmüller made to the effect that the colleague with whom he was in most frequent and confidential communication was the German Chargé d'Affaires, gave me an opportunity of acknowledging the very friendly and straightforward support which Her Majesty's Government had received from Prince Bismarck and Count Kálnoky, and from the German and Austrian Representatives at Constantinople.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 629.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.(No. 292. Confidential.)
Sir,*Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.*

THE Italian Chargé d'Affaires called upon me this afternoon and inquired whether the Military Convention between England and Turkey had been concluded.

I answered in the negative.

M. Catalani said he had heard that the Turkish Plenipotentiaries had accepted the Convention as proposed by Her Majesty's Government, but had asked that the Turkish troops might not be called upon to land at Aboukir, and that Lord Dufferin had stated that, in view of the changed position of affairs, he could not be certain that Her Majesty's Government would now be willing to enter into the Convention.

I asked M. Catalani whether he had received this information from Rome.

He said that he had not; that it was from another source.

I told him that I had no further communication to make to him at present beyond what I had already said—that the Convention was not signed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 630.

Earl Granville to Mr. Baring.(No. 47.)
Sir,*Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 46 of the 26th instant, in which I informed you of the offer of the Portuguese Government to co-operate, if necessary, in the police protection of the Suez Canal, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a telegram from M. Mancini to the Italian Chargé d'Affaires in London,* reporting the answer which has been returned by the Italian Government to a similar communication made to them by the Portuguese Minister in Rome, and asking what is the opinion of Her Majesty's Government upon the point.

I have replied that Her Majesty's Government are ready to agree with the other Powers to this effect.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

* No. 529.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Colvin.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.

MR. CARTWRIGHT has requested Sir E. Malet to express to Her Majesty's Government his sense of the important services rendered by you to British interests during the time that he was left in charge of the Agency and Consulate-General in Egypt, and his recognition of the guidance and advice which you gave him in regard to the performance of his duties.

Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour has added his testimony to the value and efficiency of your assistance at a most trying and difficult time, and I have great pleasure in conveying to you the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for your services and their high appreciation of your conduct.

A copy of this letter will be sent to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 632.

Earl Granville to the British Suez Canal Directors.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.

I HAVE had under my consideration your despatch No. 28 of the 18th instant, explaining the grounds on which you based your application for authority to offer to the Suez Canal Company the guarantee of Her Majesty's Government against any claims which might be made against them on account of the detention of vessels consequent on the passage of the ships conveying Her Majesty's forces through the Canal.

The time for making such an offer has now passed, as the troop-ships have entered the Canal, and the employés appear to have resumed their functions, and to be placing no further difficulties in the way of the passage of the ships; but I think it desirable to place on record that Her Majesty's Government would not have been disposed to depart from the view that the proposed guarantee should not be given.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 633.

Earl Granville to the British Suez Canal Directors.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 28, 1882.

WITH reference to your report No. 32 of the 20th instant, informing Lord Granville that M. Charles de Lesseps had complained to you that all traffic through the Suez Canal had been stopped by the British Admiral at Suez twelve hours previous to the communication made to him by the British Directors inviting an agreement with the Company in the matter, I am directed by his Lordship to transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Board of Admiralty,* explaining that there was no intentional or avoidable delay in making the proposal to the Council of the Company at Paris, and I am to request that you will favour Lord Granville with your opinion as to whether it would be desirable that you should make a communication to the Company in the sense of this letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

* No. 564.

[1410]

4 C

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 28, 11 P.M.)

(No. 377.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 28, 1882, 4 P.M.

HAVING mentioned to-day to the Austrian Ambassador that the Porte were showing an inclination to accept both the Convention and the Proclamation, but that things had gone so fast in Egypt, and the attitude of the Sultan was so [?], that it was possible my Government might consider a Convention no longer necessary, he told me that he had warned the Ottoman Ministers that this would be the probable result of their dilatoriness. He then went on to say that he heard the Sultan, if he did not come to an agreement with us, was preparing to throw himself into the arms of Russia, which he considered would be a great misfortune for Europe, whereas a good understanding between England and Turkey was what Austria most desired, and that the joint action of Turkey and England in Egypt might lead to this. I said I quite agreed with him, if only the Sultan could be depended upon for a day together.

No. 635.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 28.)

(No. 852. Confidential. Ext. 377.)

Therapia, August 28, 1882.

My Lord,

I MENTIONED to-day to the Austrian Ambassador that the Porte were showing an inclination to accept both the Convention and the Proclamation, but that things had gone so fast in Egypt, and the attitude of the Sultan had been so unsatisfactory, that it was possible my Government might consider a Convention no longer necessary.

His Excellency told me in reply that he had warned the Ottoman Ministers that this would be the probable result of their dilatoriness. He then went on to say that he had heard that the Sultan, if he did not come to an agreement with us, was preparing to throw himself into the arms of Russia, which he considered would be a great misfortune for Europe, whereas a good understanding between Turkey and England was what Austria most desired; and that the joint action of Turkey and England in Egypt might lead to this.

I said that I quite agreed with him, if only the Sultan could be depended upon for a day together.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 636.

M. Stumm to Sir J. Pauncefoot.—(Received August 29.)

Dear Sir Julian,

German Embassy, August 29, 1882.

IN conformity to your wish, allow me to explain to you again the views of the German Government concerning the dues payable by the men-of-war patrolling in the Canal.

We think that the principal condition for a normal traffic in the Canal is its entire safety, and this the Administration of the Canal has been unable to provide. The fact that the traffic was in danger has been recognized by the unanimous decision of all the Powers concerning the Italian proposal (the establishing of general police measures in the Canal).

We think that the possibility of using the Canal was the direct result of the patrolling, in consequence of which merchant-ships can freely pass through the Canal, and thus the Company receives dues which, otherwise, it would have lost.

The duty which the Canal Administration ought to have fulfilled was left to the men-of-war, and, according to our opinion, it would be more natural to pay the expenses incurred by the patrolling in retaining a part of the dues payable by the merchant-vessels instead of exacting payments from the gun-boats.

My Government should like very much to know, as soon as possible, the views of the British Government concerning this matter.

Yours very truly,
(Signed) F. STUMM.

No. 637.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 29, 4 P.M.)

(No. 423.)
(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 29, 1882, 2 P.M.

KHEDIVE has received no disquieting intelligence from Souakin or other ports in the Red Sea, but he would be glad if Her Majesty's ships could visit them and assure their allegiance.

No. 638.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 29.)

(No. 579. Ext. 423.)

Alexandria, August 29, 1882.

My Lord,

I HAVE received your Lordship's telegram of yesterday respecting Souakin and the other ports in the Red Sea. The Khedive has not had any disquieting reports from that quarter; but His Highness would be glad that Her Majesty's ships should secure the allegiance of those places by calling there.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 639.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 549.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 29, 1882, 4 P.M.

IN reply to a representation from Musurus Pasha as to the interruption of telegraphic communication with Egypt, the Hedjaz, and Yemen in consequence of the occupation of El-Karasis by English troops, his Excellency has been informed that it is necessary to prevent any communications passing between the rebels and the rest of the world, and therefore we have been compelled to interrupt their telegraphic communications; but that any messages, in cypher or otherwise, telegraphed from the Porte to the Hedjaz and Yemen will be forwarded from Port Said by telegraph as soon as the line is open to Suez, which we do not believe it to be at present, and in the meanwhile our Admirals will be instructed to send them by the quickest available opportunity to Suez to be forwarded.

No. 640.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 530. Ext. 549.)

Foreign Office, August 29, 1882.

My Lord,

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a telegram from the Porte,* which was communicated to me by the Turkish Ambassador at this Court on the 28th instant, relative to the interruption of telegraphic communication between Constantinople, Egypt, the Hedjaz, and the Yemen, consequent on the occupation of El Karasio by British troops.

In reply, I have caused Musurus Pasha to be informed that in order to prevent any communication passing between the rebels and the rest of the world, it has been found necessary to interrupt their telegraphic communications; but that any telegrams which the Porte may desire to send in cypher or otherwise to their authorities in the Hedjaz and Yemen will be forwarded by telegraph from Port Said, as soon as the line

between that place and Suez is open, of which Her Majesty's Government have no information at present.

In the meantime, the British Admirals will receive instructions to send on all messages to Suez by the quickest opportunity available, to be forwarded from thence to their destination.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 641.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 29, 4:30 P.M.)

(No. 424.)
(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 29, 1882, 3 P.M.

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 436 of yesterday.

The Khedive has given me a formal engagement that no prisoners of war made over to him will be put to death without the consent of Her Majesty's Government.

No. 642.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 29.)

(No. 580. Ext. 424.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 29, 1882.

ON receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, I mentioned to the Khedive the subject of the treatment of prisoners of war, who should be handed over to him by the British military authorities; and I have the honour to inform your Lordship that His Highness has given me a verbal assurance that no prisoners of war made over to him shall be put to death without the consent of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 643.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Sir J. Pouncefote.—(Received August 29.)

THE Secretary of the Admiralty presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram dated to-day, No. 250, addressed to Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour, Ismailia.

Admiralty, August 29, 1882.

Inclosure in No. 643.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.

(No. 250. Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, August 29, 1882.

IF any official telegrams in cypher or otherwise arrive at Port Saïd from the Porte, addressed to Turkish officials on Arabian side of Red Sea, send them on to Suez by earliest opportunity by telegraph or otherwise, with instructions that they may be forwarded without delay.

No. 644.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.—(Communicated by the Admiralty, August 29.)

(No. 250.)

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, August 29, 1882, 12:50 P.M.

IF any official telegrams, in cypher or otherwise, arrive at Port Saïd from the Porte addressed to Turkish officials on Arabian side of Red Sea, send them on to Suez by earliest opportunity, by telegraph or otherwise, with instructions that they may be forwarded without delay.

(Acknowledge.)

No. 645.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett.—(Communicated by the Admiralty, August 29.)

(No. 33.)

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, August 29, 1882, 6:35 P.M.

IF Sir Beauchamp Seymour considers it desirable, arrange for a ship to visit Egyptian Red Sea ports, embarking an officer from the Khedive, who has received no disquieting intelligence from Souakin or other Red Sea ports, but would be glad if Her Majesty's ships could visit them and assure their allegiance.

No. 646.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Admiral Sir B. Seymour.—Communicated by the Admiralty, August 29.)

(No. 252.)

(Telegraphic.)

Admiralty, August 29, 1882, 6:35 P.M.

[REAR-] ADMIRAL HEWETT informed, if you consider it desirable, he is to arrange for a ship to visit Egyptian Red Sea ports, embarking an officer from the Khedive, who has received no disquieting intelligence from Souakin or other Red Sea ports, but would be glad if her Majesty's ships could visit them and assure their allegiance.

If you decide to send a ship, arrange with [Sir Edward] Malet that an officer belonging to [the] Khedive shall be sent to Suez to embark.

No. 647.

Sir R. Thompson to Sir J. Pouncefote.—(Received August 29.)

(Confidential.)

Sir,

War Office, August 29, 1882.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you the inclosed copies of a telegram which has been dispatched from this Department with regard to affairs in Egypt.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RALPH THOMPSON.

Inclosure in No. 647.

Mr. Childers to General Sir G. Wolseley.

(Telegraphic.)

War Office, August 28, 1882.

YOURS yesterday. We approve your handing over to Khedive chief rebels whom you may capture. Malet has been instructed to obtain previous engagement that no prisoners will be put to death without our consent.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 289.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, August 29, 1882.*
I HAVE received your despatch No. 545 of the 16th instant, inclosing a letter from Mr. Cartwright, in which he bears witness to the important services rendered by Sir A. Colvin and Mr. Ornstein during the time that he was in charge of Her Majesty's Agency and Consulate-General.

I have read his Report with much pleasure, and I inclose, for your information, a copy of a letter which I have addressed to Sir A. Colvin, thanking him for the valuable assistance which he gave.

I have at the same time to request you to convey the thanks of Her Majesty's Government to Mr. Ornstein for his services, and especially for the efficient manner in which he acted as intermediary between Her Majesty's naval and military officers and the Egyptian authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 649.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 531.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, August 29, 1882.*
I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 784 of the 15th instant, and, in reply, I have to state that Her Majesty's Government approve of your having explained to the Conference that their acquiescence in the Italian proposal for the temporary organization of a maritime police in the Suez Canal did not in any sense imply an agreement on their part to the neutralization of the Canal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 650.

Sir J. Pouncefote to the British Suez Canal Directors.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 29, 1882.
I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you copies of two letters from the Admiralty* in regard to the payment of dues by the transports carrying British troops to Ismaïlia, and to a question that has been raised as to the measurement of such ships as have not Suez Canal certificates, and I am to request you to be good enough to report to his Lordship, at your earliest convenience, your opinion as to the whole question of the liability of the transports to pay dues, and as to the levy of surtax upon them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 651.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 293.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, August 29, 1882.*
THE Italian Chargé d'Affaires informed me on the 26th instant that the Italian Ambassador at Berlin had reported that the German Naval Commander at Port Saïd would receive similar instructions to those sent to the Italian Commander respecting the police service in the Canal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Earl Granville to Sir A. Paget.

(No. 294.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, August 29, 1882.*
THE Italian Chargé d'Affaires informed me on the 26th instant that the Porte was unable to give instructions at once about the police service in Canal, having no vessel available, but that it raised no objection to the instructions given to the Italian Naval Commander.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 653.

*Sir J. Pouncefote to Sir R. Thompson.**

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, August 29, 1882.*
I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you, to be laid before Mr. Childers, a copy of the draft Military Convention between Her Majesty and the Sultan, with the preliminary conditions on which Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople has been authorized to agree to it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

Inclosure in No. 653.

Draft of Military Convention between Great Britain and Turkey.

THE army of Egypt having revolted against the authority of His Highness the Khedive, as established under the Firmans of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, and the Treaties existing between the Sublime Porte and other Powers; and Her Majesty the Queen having resolved, in accordance with His Majesty the Sultan, to suppress this rebellion and re-establish order in Egypt, their said Majesties have seen fit to conclude a Military Convention for the purpose, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries:

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

ARTICLE I.

The Imperial Government having the intention of sending to Egypt a corps d'armée, fixes the total of the first division to be sent at 5,000 or 6,000 men, the arrival of the necessary number to be the subject of a subsequent agreement between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE II.

It being desirable that the place at which the Turkish troops should land should be determined beforehand, it is agreed that they shall disembark at Aboukir.

ARTICLE III.

The Commanders-in-chief of the two corps d'armée will agree beforehand on the movements and military operations of the Ottoman troops.

ARTICLE IV.

As soon as the occasion for which the troops of Her Majesty and of the Sultan have been dispatched to Egypt has passed, the troops of both the High Contracting Parties shall evacuate the country.

The evacuation by the Turkish forces shall be simultaneous with that of the British forces.

* A similar letter was addressed to the Admiralty

ARTICLE V.

In order to facilitate the communications between the two armies, it is agreed that an English officer of rank shall be attached as Commissioner to the head-quarters of the Turkish force.

Lord Dufferin has been authorized to agree to the above Convention on the following preliminary conditions:—

1. Immediate release of animals, supplies, and persons for the British army, and a promise to aid in forwarding them to Egypt.
2. Assurance that no impediment will hereafter be offered.
3. Immediate issue of the Proclamation.
4. British officers to be sent to concert modes of operation with the Turkish officers at Crete or Constantinople, as the Porte may prefer.

No. 654.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 29, 10 P.M.)

(No. 88.)

(Telegraphic.)

Vienna, August 29, 1882, 5.35 P.M.

AUSTRIAN Minister for Foreign Affairs wishes me to let your Lordship know how extremely anxious he is that Her Majesty's Government should conclude the Convention with Turkey.

A refusal to do so would, he thinks, seriously increase the danger of the operations in Egypt being regarded throughout the East as a war of Christians against Mahomedans, and it would place the Powers represented on the Conference in an embarrassing position. They had invited the Porte to take military measures in Egypt, and the Porte had accepted the duty, though it had till now rendered its execution impossible.

His Excellency thinks that, if Her Majesty's Government refuse the Turkish co-operation, the Porte will probably represent to the Conference that it had accepted the invitation of the Powers, but was prevented by England from giving effect to it.

Baron Calice telegraphed from Constantinople that, in his opinion, the refusal of Her Majesty's Government to conclude the Convention would be dangerous in itself and advantageous only to Russia.

I said that I would inform your Lordship of his Excellency's views, but he must see that the military co-operation of a Government which had shown itself so ill-disposed towards us was a very serious matter.

No. 655.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 29.)

(No. 431. Ext. 88.)

My Lord,

Vienna, August 29, 1882.

WHEN I saw Count Kálnoky this morning he told me that he had been informed that, upon the Porte signifying its readiness to sign the Military Convention, Lord Dufferin had stated that he must first refer home for instructions, and his Excellency asked me to let your Lordship know how extremely anxious he was that this agreement should be concluded.

A refusal on the part of Her Majesty's Government would, in his Excellency's opinion, very seriously increase the danger of the operations in Egypt being regarded throughout the East as a war of Christians against Mahomedans, and the Powers which had been represented at the Conference would themselves be placed by it in an embarrassing position, for they had invited the Turkish Government to send troops to Egypt, and the Porte had accepted the *mandat*, though it had till now rendered its execution impossible.

In the event of Her Majesty's Government refusing the Turkish co-operation, Count Kálnoky thinks it probable that the Porte will represent to the Conference that it had accepted the invitation unanimously made to it by the Powers, but was prevented by England from giving effect to it.

Baron Calice had telegraphed from Constantinople expressing a strong opinion on the dangers to be expected consequent on a refusal of Her Majesty's Government to

conclude the Convention, and a belief that it would prove advantageous to Russia alone.

I said that I would inform your Lordship of his Excellency's views, but added that he must see that after the Turkish Government had shown such an unfriendly disposition towards us, the question of accepting their co-operation had become a much more serious matter than it had before been.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 656.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 30.)

(No. 39.)

My Lord,

London, August 29, 1882.

IN reply to Sir Julian Pauncefote's letter of yesterday, we have the honour to state that we think it would be advisable that we should be authorized to communicate to the Company the letter from the Admiralty of the 24th August, in order that it may be understood what were the reasons for the delay which occurred in making our representation to M. Charles de Lesseps as to the intended occupation of the Canal.

The explanation seems to be the more necessary inasmuch as the circumstance appears to have been made the subject of unfriendly remarks by M. Ferdinand de Lesseps.

We have, &c.
(Signed) C. RIVERS WILSON.
J. STOKES.

No. 657.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 30, 11 A.M.)

(No. 379.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 29, 1882, 11.55 P.M.

I HAVE settled to-day the text of the Convention with the Turkish Plenipotentiaries. They have promised to send me the initialled copy to-morrow, the delay being occasioned by the necessity of obtaining the Sultan's formal sanction. They assure me, however, that there is no chance of a word in it being altered.

The Ministers have also agreed to the conditions contained in your Lordship's telegram No. 547 of yesterday's date. Crete will be probably the place to which they would desire the British officers to repair to concert operations.

Said Pasha, the Prime Minister, again entreated me to try and induce the English Government to allow the Turkish troops to pass via Alexandria to Aboukir, on condition that they were not to remain a day in the town. He said that he had been fighting England's battles against great odds, and that his position was precarious, but if he could obtain this favour from us it would greatly strengthen his hands and increase his credit.

Now that we have accepted the Convention, I would venture with great deference to express the opinion that our best chance of averting dangers attendant on Turkish co-operation, and facilitating a good understanding, will be by assuming as generous an attitude as possible towards the Sultan.

Having thoroughly frightened him, and obtained all that we require, it is just possible that by showing consideration and kindness we may win his confidence.

I told the Prime Minister that I could only confine myself to the terms of my instructions, but that the fact of your Lordship proposing to send officers to Crete to consult with the Turkish military authorities appeared to me to evince a desire to take into account whatever considerations they might have to urge. I was not authorized, however, to qualify anything I had already said with respect to Alexandria.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 30.)

(No. 856. Confidential. Ext. 379.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 29, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I have to-day settled the text of the Convention with the Turkish Plenipotentiaries. They have promised to send me the initialled copy to-morrow, the delay being occasioned by the necessity of obtaining the Sultan's formal sanction. They assure me, however, that there is no chance of a word in it being altered.

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Now that we have accepted the Convention, I would venture with great deference to express the opinion that our best chance of averting the risks attendant upon Turkish co-operation, and facilitating a good understanding, will be by assuming as generous an attitude as possible towards the Sultan. Having thoroughly frightened him, and obtained all that we require, it is just possible that by showing consideration and kindness we may win his confidence.

I told the Prime Minister that I could only confine myself to the terms of my instruction, but that the fact of your Lordship proposing to send officers to Crete to consult with the Ottoman military authorities appeared to me to evince a desire to take into account whatever considerations they might have to urge. I was not authorized, however, to qualify anything I had already said respecting Alexandria.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 659.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 30, 12:35 P.M.)

(No. 426.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 30, 1882, 8:30 A.M.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF has telegraphed to ask me if I can give him Foreign Office information as to the prospect of Turkish troops coming. I have replied that I have no information as to the likelihood of the Convention being signed.

No. 660.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 30, 2:20 P.M.)

(No. 380.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 30, 1882, 11:15 A.M.

HOBART PASHA tells me that the Sultan has consulted him in reference to the bombardment of Aboukir; and I am told that iron-clads are being coaled, but I doubt whether the idea is serious.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 30.)

(No. 857. Ext. 380.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 30, 1882.

HOBART PASHA tells me that the Sultan has consulted him in reference to the bombardment of Aboukir; and I have been also informed that iron-clads are being coaled and got ready for sea, but I doubt whether the idea is serious.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 662.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Walsham.

(No. 295.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 30, 1882, 2:30 P.M.

THE War Office have been in communication with the General Commanding-in-chief in Egypt respecting the wish of the German Government to attach an officer to the head-quarters of Her Majesty's troops in that country; and Sir Garnet Wolseley has stated that he shall have much pleasure in receiving the officer who may be selected for the duty, although he fears that the accommodation he can offer him will be of a rough description.

No. 663.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 30, 2:45 P.M.)

(No. 381.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 30, 1882, 11:40 A.M.

YOUR telegram No. 548.

No changes reported since Major Trotter's despatch No. 2 of the 14th August, forwarded in my despatch No. 781. The four transports named there still at Suda Bay with 5 battalions infantry, 2 field batteries and 2 mountain batteries, and 2 squadrons cavalry.

The three battalions from Scutari are, I believe, still waiting for orders to embark in the two transports at San Giovanni.

(Sent to Admiral.)

No. 664.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 30, 6:45 P.M.)

(No. 427.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, August 30, 1882, 4:15 P.M.

MY telegram No. 424 yesterday.

Chérif Pasha has spoken to me about the engagement given by the Khedive that no prisoners of war shall be put to death without the consent of Her Majesty's Government.

He says that the intention of the Khedive's Government was to leave the prisoners till order is re-established, and to try them by a properly-constituted Court, at which he suggests that an English officer of rank should assist.

No. 665.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 30.)

(No. 584. Ext. 427.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 30, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 580 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to report that Chérif Pasha has spoken to me about the assurance given to me by the

Khedive that no prisoners of war made over to him should be put to death without the consent of Her Majesty's Government.

His Excellency said that the intention of His Highness' Government had been to leave the prisoners until order should be re-established, and then to try them before a properly constituted Court, in which an English officer of rank should take part.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 666.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Sir J. Pauncefote.—(Received August 30.)

[An amended copy of this letter will be found under date of September 1; Part VI, No. 4.]

Sir,

Admiralty, August 30, 1882.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will state to Earl Granville that they observed in the "Standard" newspaper of the 25th instant a telegraphic report from the correspondent of that journal at Ismaïlia of a conversation with M. Victor de Lesseps, of which the inclosed is a copy.

2. Although their Lordships do not usually take notice of the reports which are circulated through the press, and they do not attach very much importance to the repetition of a conversation, such repetitions not usually being trustworthy, they thought it desirable, bearing in mind the importance they attach to the maintenance of friendly relations with M. Ferdinand de Lesseps and the staff of the Suez Canal Company, to repeat the telegraphic report to Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour, the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces in the Mediterranean, who is now at Ismaïlia, and request him to report by telegraph the circumstances of the occupation of that place on the 20th instant.

3. Their Lordships received his reply to-day, in which he informs them that Ismaïlia was garrisoned by rebel troops, guards having been placed at the lock, the Governor's house, and the Arab town; that the only firing that took place was at the lock, where the guards fired and were fired on, and that it was at that place that the brother of one of the employés of the Canal Company was wounded, who died on the 29th instant in the British hospital. He adds that two soldiers were found dead in the Arab town, probably from wounds received at the lock.

4. Sir Beauchamp Seymour also reports that he saw on the 21st instant many women on board the Spanish ship "Carmen;" that he was told by the Captains that they took refuge on board of her and the Austrian ship "Albatross" on the 20th. It appears that Captain Fitzroy permitted two large canal-boats to be used for their embarkation, although he did not consider it consistent with his duty to allow Canal officers to leave Ismaïlia.

5. My Lords would suggest to Earl Granville the advisability of communicating a copy of this letter to the British Directors of the Suez Canal Company, in order that they may be put in possession of the facts of the case, for my Lords would greatly regret if it were supposed that any intentional want of consideration or courtesy had been shown by any officers commanding Her Majesty's ships to M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, or to any of the staff of the Company. Instructions were given that the necessary measures were to be taken for occupying certain strategical posts on the Canal, by the desire and in the name of His Highness the Khedive, with the utmost consideration to the officers of the Company consistently with their success; and my Lords have no reason to suppose that Her Majesty's officers concerned have not acted entirely in accordance with these instructions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. TRYON.

Inclosure in No. 666.

Telegram from the "Standard" Correspondent at Ismaïlia.

(From the "Standard" of August 25.)

"M. DE LESSEPS, his son, and a party had just returned from a ball at 3 o'clock in the morning. All was quiet, there was not an Egyptian soldier in the town, and perfect confidence was felt that the war could not approach this portion of Egypt. On a sudden the stillness of the night was broken by a rush of armed men firing wildly in

all directions. A gardener of M. de Lesseps and two employés of the Company were, without the slightest offence on their part, shot dead. No shadow of opposition was anywhere offered. M. de Lesseps begged permission to send the frightened women and children afloat in the Company's boats; but Captain Fitzroy, of the 'Orion,' peremptorily refused, and put sentries over our boats. The natives all fled, and we are without servants."

Such was M. Victor de Lesseps' version of the events which attended our occupation of Ismaïlia.

No. 667.

Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville.—(Received August 30, 9 P.M.)

(No. 191. Secret.)
(Telegraphic.)

Paris, August 30, 1882, 6.40 P.M.

M. JOUBERT, formerly Mr. Goschen's colleague in Egypt, who is an intimate friend of M. Duclerc, came to me to-day to convey to me the hint that the French Government desire to resume the close understanding with England which the action of the Chamber interrupted. It is with this view that M. Tissot was sent to London yesterday, but as M. Duclerc has no great confidence in M. Tissot's success, he would prefer direct action between himself and this Embassy. Despatch to-night by post.

There are probably three causes for this overture:—

1. The fear that now exists that England has made some secret arrangement with Germany about Egypt.
2. A desire to secure a share of the spoils which their abstinence has endangered.
3. The wish of the Administration to restore its prestige here in France.

Same authority assures me that a private agreement has been come to between M. Duclerc and M. Garabetta. I have since seen M. Duclerc on other business. He did not allude to this matter.

No. 668.

Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 30.)

(No. 956. Secret. Ext. 191.)
My Lord,

Paris, August 30, 1882.

AFTER laying before your Lordship, in my immediately preceding Secret despatch, the report of M. Joubert's overtures to me, I would venture to express the opinion that the following are the chief causes which induce the French Government to seek at this moment a renewal of closer relations with England.

1. The fear which now exists at the French Foreign Office that Her Majesty's Government have made some sort of secret arrangement with Germany about Egypt.
2. The desire of France to secure the right to a share of the future profits which her present abstention has endangered.
3. The wish of the present Administration to restore the prestige of the Government and of the Republic here in France.

I had the honour to forward the substance of the above despatch to your Lordship by telegraph this afternoon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 669.

Acting Consul Moncrieff to Earl Granville.—(Received August 31.)

(No. 13. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Jeddah, August 18, 1882.

ABOUT fourteen days ago two letters from Arabi Pasha were received here, one by Hassan Khan (a native of Cabul, who poses with the Turks as one of the Royal

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Family, but who was denied by the brother of Shere Ali when here on Haj or three seasons ago), and the other by Osman Pasha, the Vali.

In the letter to Hassan Khan, Arabi informs him that he has taken up arms in defence of his country, and begs him to solicit the Grand Shereef to cause prayers for his success to be said in Mecca, and to say that now is the time for his Highness to help Mussulmans.

The answer to this has been, I understand, a promise of the prayers of Hassan Khan himself and whatever other assistance he can procure.

The letter to Osman Pasha begs his Excellency to cause the Bokhari to be read in the mosques, *i.e.*, the prayer read five times a-day when the Sultan is at war. I am not as yet aware of what answer, if any, Osman Pasha has made, but it is certain that no such prayers have been said in any mosques.

Jeddah is perfectly quiet. The third day of the Bairam is nearly over, without anything unusual happening, and the fears of a good many Europeans, that their massacre would form one of its principal features this year, has been hitherto disappointed.

I am confident that no trouble will arise here unless events should bring Her Majesty's Government into open collision with His Majesty the Sultan. In that case it is very probable that during the intense excitement that would ensue, the lower classes and bad characters of Jeddah and the surrounding villages, many of them blacks, would murder and loot Europeans in the name of the Prophet.

I may remark that his name is about all such people know about him, and that it would be an error, as grave as certain to be made, to attribute our misfortunes to the Mussulman religion. Good and average Mussulmans would be no parties to such proceedings, and those who have wealth would probably suffer themselves, as would certainly British Indians of that faith; but it is not probable that the Turkish authorities would be very active in preventing harm.

The hidden opposition of the Sultan is not very likely to occasion trouble here. It cannot well be known to the rabble, and the better class, in addition to better feelings, have a wholesome dread of the destruction of their town. I should remark, in conclusion, that the present impression that the Sultan has joined England and proclaimed Arabi a rebel has had a calming effect. The feeling seems to be one of relief as much with Mussulmans as Europeans.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYNEDOCH N. MONCRIEFF.

No. 670.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 31.)

(No. 553. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 22, 1882.

CHERIF PASHA informed me to-day that my French colleague, M. de Vorges, had observed to him that there appeared to be serious difficulties in the Soudan, and that if the Egyptian Government desired it, French officers would be placed at its disposal for the purpose of restoring the province to order. Chérif Pasha said that he had thanked M. de Vorges for the offer, but had declined to take advantage of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 671.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 31.)

(No. 555.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 22, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a Proclamation issued by the Khedive to the Commandants of the several garrisons, warning them that General Sir Garnet Wolseley had received full authority to take any military measures that he might deem advisable, and calling upon them to obey his orders as having the same force as those of the Khedive himself.

The Proclamation further gives notice that any submission to General Wolseley will be accepted as though made to his Highness; but that any person who should

offer opposition to the English Commander-in-chief should be treated as a rebel by the Khedivial authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 671.

Proclamation.

(Traduction.)

M. LE GÉNÉRAL WOLSELEY, Commandant-en-chef des troupes Britanniques, n'ayant d'autre but que le rétablissement de la paix et de l'ordre en Égypte, il est autorisé par nous à prendre toutes les mesures militaires qu'il jugera utiles.

Vous devez donc, à la réception de notre présent Ordre, lui prêter votre concours et obéir à ses ordres qui sont, en réalité, les nôtres. Quiconque se soumettra à lui sera considéré comme se soumettant à nous-mêmes et quiconque ne se soumettra pas, sera considéré comme rebelle et traité par nous en conséquence.

Nous vous adressons donc le présent Ordre, afin que vous vous y conformiez scrupuleusement.

(Cacheté) MÉHÉMET TEWFIK.

No. 672.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 31.)

(No. 556.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 22, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of the letters which have passed between the Khedive and Chérif Pasha with regard to the formation of the new Ministry and the principal objects to be attained.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 672.

Chérif Pasha to His Highness the Khedive.

Monseigneur,

Alexandrie, le 20 Août, 1882.

DANS les circonstances actuelles, en me chargeant de former un Cabinet, votre Altesse daigne me donner un témoignage nouveau de sa confiance; en acceptant cette mission je veux donner à votre Altesse une preuve nouvelle de mon dévouement à mon pays et à sa personne.

Les idées principales que j'avais l'honneur de soumettre à votre Altesse il y a un an, me guideront encore aujourd'hui. Notre but est la prospérité matérielle et morale de l'Égypte; les progrès de l'instruction publique et de la justice, le développement des institutions libérales compatibles avec notre état social et politique; tels seront nos moyens. Nous n'irons pas au delà des limites que dans nos projets nous nous imposons au mois de Décembre dernier; mais nous ne reviendrons pas en deçà.

À l'heure présente toutes les bonnes volontés doivent être unies dans un seul sentiment: le salut du pays. Je n'hésiterai donc pas à faire appel à toutes les intelligences, à tous les cœurs vraiment Égyptiens et loyalement dévoués à votre Altesse.

Dans le plus bref délai j'aurai l'honneur de présenter à votre Altesse la composition définitive du Cabinet et de la soumettre à son approbation.

Daignez, &c.
(Signé) CHÉRIF.

His Highness the Khedive to Chérif Pacha.

Mon cher Chérif Pacha, *Alexandrie, le 21 Août, 1882.*
 EN vous proposant, dans les circonstances actuelles, de former un nouveau Cabinet, je me suis adressé à votre patriotisme et à votre dévouement, sur lesquels je sais pouvoir toujours compter.
 Je donne mon entière adhésion aux idées que vous m'avez exprimées. Toutes les intelligences et tous les cœurs doivent être mis dans un même sentiment: la restauration de la prospérité morale et matérielle du pays. Développer l'instruction publique, la justice et les institutions libérales, compatibles avec la situation politique et sociale de l'Égypte; tel est, je le crois avec vous, le moyen le plus efficace d'atteindre le but que nous nous proposons. Je pense, aussi, que dans les époques de troubles il est bon que l'action directe de l'autorité souveraine sur les populations et dans la marche générale des affaires, devienne plus sensible et plus manifeste. C'est pourquoi j'userai de mon droit de réunir le Conseil des Ministres sous ma présidence pour examiner avec lui les questions importantes intérieures ou extérieures. Chef suprême des forces Égyptiennes de terre et mer, j'entends aussi rendre ce commandement effectif, sans restreindre les pouvoirs que tient de moi le Ministre de la Guerre.
 Je sais, mon cher Ministre, que sur chacun de ces points vous partagez mes appréciations, et j'ai le ferme espoir que votre Ministère contribuera à faire entrer le pays dans une ère nouvelle de progrès et de prospérité.

Croyez, &c.
 (Signé) MÉHÉMET TEWFIK.

No. 673.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 31.)

(No. 560.)
 My Lord, *Alexandria, August 22, 1882.*
 I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, with the concurrence of Sir Garnet Wolseley, the Khedive has named the following officers to accompany him in the field. They leave Alexandria for Ismailia to-day:—
 Colonel Zohrab Bey, Colonel Morice Bey, English; Lieutenant-Colonel Thurneysen, Austrian; Lieutenant-Colonel Yusuf Bey Diah, Native; Lieutenant-Colonel Dulier Bey, Belgian; Captain Tewfik Effendy, Native.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 674.

Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville.—(Received August 31.)

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 (No. 955. Secret.)
 My Lord, *Paris, August 30, 1882.*
 M. JOUBERT called on me this morning, and prefacing his conversation with the remark that he was an old friend and financial colleague of the President of the Council, whom he saw almost every day, said he had come to speak to me in the strictest confidence.
 He had come to give the British Government the hint that if they would only knock at the French door it would at once be opened. M. Duclerc had a delicacy about himself taking the first step, but he was most anxious for an opportunity of restoring the close understanding with England, which the action of the Chamber had unfortunately interrupted.
 He had therefore just sent M. Tissot back to London to endeavour to establish a closer union with Her Majesty's Government, but, "au fond," he said, M. Duclerc doubts whether M. Tissot's position in England is such as to make him the best man for so delicate a negotiation.

M. Duclerc had asked M. Joubert to go over himself, and to endeavour to bring this understanding about privately through Mr. Goschen. To this he had replied

that he considered the endeavour ought to be made through one of the ordinary diplomatic channels, for he felt sure that Mr. Goschen had too much delicacy to interfere in such a question while not himself in the public service.

He therefore had come to me to make this communication, in the most confidential and informal manner, and begged me to make it known to your Lordship.

He then inquired when Lord Lyons would return; it was with his Excellency that M. Duclerc would really prefer to treat. I replied probably in six or eight weeks, according to the necessities of the service.

M. Joubert then said he might acknowledge to me privately that the last utterances of Sir Charles Dilke in the House of Commons as to the view taken by Germany and Austria of British action in Egypt, had frightened the French Government: "surely England has no secret understanding with Germany about Egypt?"

I replied that the pivot of our foreign policy was not only a good, but a cordial, understanding with France; but our action in Egypt was hostile to none of the European Powers, therefore Germany also could not but approve of it.

M. Joubert said he considered that he and Mr. Goschen had created the Anglo-French "entente cordiale" in Egypt; this was one of the reasons why he took so keen an interest in setting it on its legs again. He, however, could not help noticing that among some of the Consular Agents out there the old traditional feeling of jealousy had not yet died out.

On this point I replied: "I fear your countrymen have a pretty good memory, but, after all, that does not matter so much; the important point is that the two Governments should desire to maintain the friendship, and to that we have never wished anything but success."

I inquired what exactly he intended me to understand? The promise to do nothing of consequence without previously consulting the Chamber seemed to me to tie M. Duclerc's hands.

He replied that M. Duclerc was a man of energy, who intended to have a policy of his own, and, if necessary, he would even on some subjects go so far as to dissolve the Chamber. M. Joubert went on to say that on the basis of a close friendship with England M. Duclerc had secured the support of M. Gambetta.

After the above conversation with M. Joubert I had occasion to see M. Duclerc on other business. His Excellency made no allusion to the subject, and I considered it wiser not to touch upon it.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 675.

The British Suez Canal Directors to Earl Granville.—(Received August 31.)

(No. 40.)
 My Lord, *London, August 31, 1882.*
 WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of yesterday, and, in obedience to the directions contained in it, to report on the whole question of the liability of the transports to pay dues, and on the levy of the surtax upon them.

On the first point, we have the honour to point out that, under Article 17 of the Suez Canal Company's Charter of the 5th January, 1856, they are entitled to levy dues under the express condition:—

"That these dues shall be collected without exception or favour from all ships under like conditions."

Article 11 of the Company's "Regulations for the Navigation of the Suez Maritime Canal" gives effect to the Charter.

It makes no exception in favour of any nation paying the navigation dues.

We, therefore, are clearly of opinion that every vessel engaged in the expedition, which has entered the Suez Canal, is bound to pay her dues.

We have further the honour to point out that the Company's officers had a right to demand payment of these dues before the vessels entered the Canal; that by your Lordship's orders, we requested the Company to forego their rights in this respect until after the arrival of the vessels at Ismailia, and that we think that there should be no question of their paying those dues now that they have arrived.

According to the said Article 11 of the Company's Regulations, every vessel should pay her dues on her net tonnage, as determined by the Constantinople Rules, and inscribed on the special certificate issued by the Board of Trade.

Every vessel not having such a certificate shall be measured by the Company's officers, according to those Rules, and shall pay according to such measurement until she produces a special certificate from the authorities of her own country.

According to section 4 of the said Article 11, vessels of war, and vessels constructed or chartered for the transport of troops, are exempted from the surtax.

Under Article 11, section 5, any ship carrying mails or passengers is not considered in ballast; and, under section 7, every vessel lying at Port Saïd or Ismailia is liable to a berthing or anchorage due of 2 centimes per day per ton after a stay of twenty-four hours; this amount to be paid every ten days.

According to a Provisional Order at the end of the Regulations, which may be cancelled at any moment, but, as far as we are aware, has not been cancelled up to the present time, vessels passing to or from Ismailia from or to Port Saïd, empty or in ballast, are exempt from the special navigation dues, and shall only be subject to the payment of 5 fr. per ton, and of the surtax settled by the Constantinople Commission when loaded outward or homeward.

We, therefore, are of opinion that every ship of war or vessel conveying troops to Ismailia should pay 5 fr. a ton on her tonnage, under the special Suez certificate, and that if she has no such certificate, no difficulty should be placed in the way of the Company's officers measuring her. If she returns to Port Saïd empty she should pay no additional dues, but if she returns laden, or with passengers, hospital ship for instance, she will have to pay a second 5 fr. per ton. All store-ships will have to pay, in addition to the 5 fr. per ton, a surtax of 1 fr. per ton.

Every passenger, whether soldier or civilian, will have to pay 10 fr. either way. The officers and crews of the ship are alone exempt from this toll.

Every ship is bound to pay her full dues for berthing, pilotage, or towing.

The remission of dues does not apply to vessels from Suez to Ismailia; it is exclusively confined to the section from Port Saïd to Ismailia.

There is a transitory provision under Article 11 of the Regulations, which provides a penalty of a surtax of 4 fr. per ton on any vessel not having a special certificate, which has only papers showing her tonnage under section (a) of clause 23 of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1854.

This penalty, we think, cannot be inflicted on vessels specially exempted from surtax, but it might, and probably would, be insisted on if objections are raised to the Company's officers measuring the ships without special certificates.

In conclusion, we have the honour to observe that we do not think that it is desirable to send out an officer of the Board of Trade, as the Company being within their rights might fairly object to his presence.

We do not think that we can ask the Company to reduce the surtax of 4 fr., but, as we have above pointed out, it could only be demanded in particular instances, and may not be demanded at all. Neither do we think that the Company can be asked to accept an average addition.

Probably the Lords of the Admiralty, when informed of the real position of these vessels with respect to dues, as indicated by us, may not wish to maintain their proposal.

We have, &c.
(Signed) J. STOKES.
C. RIVERS WILSON.

No. 676.

Report by the Law Officers of the Crown on the Foreign Office Reference of the 23rd August respecting the Neutrality of the Suez Canal.

[Case not yet seen by Dr. Deane.]

THAT we think it will be better not to pledge the Government to any detailed statement of their views in regard to the question of the neutrality, and to instruct the English Suez Canal Directors to state that Her Majesty's Government do not concur in the views held by M. Lesseps and the Council, as declared in the Resolution of the 5th August, and that they desire to record their dissent therefrom.

It would probably be better to make the declaration general with reference to the views declared in the Resolution without using the words "on the subject of the neutrality of the Suez Canal."

It is worth consideration, however, whether it would not be well to add an emphatic statement, that steps taken by and under the authority of the Ruler of Egypt against his subjects who are in rebellion, and for the purpose of restoring order and his authority throughout his dominions, in no way touch or concern the question of the neutrality of the Canal.

We have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY JAMES.
FARRER HERSCHELL.

No. 677.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 31, 3 P.M.)

(No. 428.)
(Telegraphic.) *Alexandria, August 31, 1882, 2 P.M.*
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF has telegraphed to me to say that his instructions from the War Office preclude him from allowing Sultan Pasha to telegraph to Khedive in cypher or in Arabic, and asks what I wish.

I have spoken to Khedive to-day. He is anxious to be allowed to correspond with Sultan Pasha in cypher or in Arabic, but he is willing that the Pasha's telegrams should be submitted to Sir Garnet Wolseley before being cyphered. I said that I would ask your Lordship for instructions.

I think that permission should either be withheld or granted without the restriction offered by His Highness, which would indicate want of confidence, and would not really prevent the Pasha from putting what he chooses into the cypher.

I think also that the Khedive should be allowed to correspond in cypher, but not in Arabic, so as to make certain that the correspondence is absolutely between these two.

No. 678.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 437.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, August 31, 1882, 3.40 P.M.*
TEXT of Convention was settled yesterday by Lord Dufferin with the Turks, and Sultan's formal sanction is expected to be given at once.

It provides for landing of limited number of troops at Aboukir, Damietta, or Rosetta; that no movement should take place without assent of the English General; and Commissioners are to go from England to Constantinople or Crete to arrange details.

No. 679.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 293. Ext. 437.) *Foreign Office, August 31, 1882.*
Sir,
I HAVE to inform you that the text of the proposed Military Convention was yesterday settled between Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople and the Turkish Ministers, and that the formal sanction of His Majesty the Sultan is expected to be given immediately.

The terms of the Convention provide for the landing of a limited number of Turkish troops at Aboukir, Damietta, or Rosetta; that no military movement is to take place without the previous assent of the British Commander-in-chief having been obtained; and it is further stipulated that Commissioners are to proceed from England to Constantinople or Crete, according as the Turkish authorities may prefer, to concert the details of the arrangement.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 298.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 31, 1882, 3.45 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 88 of the 29th instant.

Her Majesty's Government have already come to an agreement with the Porte as to the Military Convention, and one of their reasons for doing so was the fact of its being in accordance with the general European policy.

No. 681.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 264. Ext. 298.)

Foreign Office, August 31, 1882.

Sir,

I HAVE received your Excellency's telegram of the 29th instant, communicating the views of the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs with respect to the Military Convention with Turkey, and stating that he is very anxious for its conclusion.

In reply, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government have already come to an agreement with the Porte upon the subject, and that one of their reasons for doing so was the fact that the Convention is in accordance with the general European policy.

The substance of the above was telegraphed to you to-day.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 682.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 31, 10 P.M.)

(No. 385.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, August 31, 1882, 4 P.M.

ON Tuesday night I telegraphed to your Lordship that I had settled with the Turkish Plenipotentiaries the text of the Convention that afternoon. The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs had suggested that it should be initialled on the spot, but as the Council of Ministers was sitting, one of the Plenipotentiaries retired to acquaint them and the Prime Minister with what was being done. On returning, and after consultation with his colleague, he expressed a wish that the initialling of the text should be deferred until the next day. Upon this I handed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs a note written on the spot, in which I informed him that, in presence of this unexpected hesitation on his part, my Government resumed all its liberty of action. Saïd Pasha then went back to the Council of Ministers, and eventually returned with an assurance from himself and all his colleagues that the delay was merely required by a formality. It and they pledged their honour that the Convention would be sent to me next day, duly initialled by the Turkish Government, and without the change of a word, but that the Ottoman routine required the Sultan's Iradé.

On the strength of his declaration I consented to take back my note.

I heard subsequently again from the Porte all that had happened yesterday; but in the middle of the night Saïd Pasha arrived to tell me that the military and naval authorities had made such strong representations to His Majesty about impossibility of troops, artillery, munitions, and stores being landed with safety on the open beach at Aboukir that His Majesty had commanded him to entreat me to induce your Lordship to allow the disembarkation to take place at Alexandria, on condition that the troops should merely file through the town and march at once to Aboukir.

Early this morning Saïd Pasha again returned, accompanied by Reschid Bey, to tell me that the Sultan had sent him to renew his prayer and to make the following additional proposals. His Majesty having heard that his attitude had engendered suspicion in the mind of the English people, he was prepared to take any step to remove our misgivings. If only Her Majesty's Government would allow his troops to land at Alexandria under the conditions already named, instead of sending 5,000 men, he would reduce the number to 1,000 or 2,000. General Baker should go as second in

command, and in addition, should be given equal authority with Dervish Pasha, the Commander-in-chief, to dispose of the troops in accordance with the wishes of the English Commander. The troops themselves should be as much under the control of the English Generals as in the Crimea. General Baker should take with him as many English officers as he might desire to. Furthermore, the Sultan was prepared from henceforth to enter into the closest friendship with England; to discharge from about his person and service all those who had hitherto stood in the way of a good understanding; and he concluded by acknowledging that he had been wrong in doubting her friendship and assuming so reserved an attitude towards her.

The foregoing assurance was conveyed to me by the Foreign Minister in conjunction with one from the Sultan's personal familiars, so that it represents the united conclusions of the Porte and the Palace. In fact, the Sultan is on his knees.

I would therefore venture most earnestly to urge Her Majesty's Government to acquiesce in His Majesty's prayer. Your Lordship knows how little faith I have in his sincerity, but, for all that, I think that we have now a real chance of permanently establishing good relations with him. Moreover, although we might have broken off the negotiations for the Convention on the strength of the hostile attitude assumed by the Ottoman Government in stopping our mules, muleteers, provisions, and pack-saddles, with an unwilling admission from Austria and Germany that we were justified in doing so, their opinion would be the other way if the negotiations fall through in consequence of our refusing Turks a passage to Aboukir from Alexandria.

The Sultan also promised to do everything we desired in regard to the Proclamation, and to insure an altered tone in the press, about which I have made angry complaints. Though venturing to recommend to your Lordship's favourable consideration the Sultan's prayer, I have maintained towards the Ottoman Delegates a very firm attitude, and held out no expectations. On the contrary, I said [groups wrong] were too late.

No. 683.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, August 31.)

(No. 862. Ext. 385.)

Therapia, August 31, 1882.

My Lord,

IN my despatch No. 856, Confidential, of the 29th instant, I had the honour to inform your Lordship that I had settled with the Ottoman Plenipotentiaries the text of the Military Convention that afternoon. The Under-Secretary of State had suggested that it should be initialled on the spot, but as the Council of Ministers was sitting, one of the Plenipotentiaries retired to acquaint them and the Prime Minister with what was being done. On his return, and after consulting his colleague, he expressed a wish that the initialling of the text should be deferred until the next day. Upon this, I handed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs a note written on the spot, in which I informed his Excellency that, in presence of this unexpected hesitation on his part, my Government resumed all its liberty of action. Saïd Pasha then went back to the Council of Ministers, and eventually returned with an assurance from himself and all his colleagues that the delay was merely required by a formality. He and they pledged their words of honour that the Convention would be sent to me the next day, duly initialled and without the change of a word, but that the Ottoman routine required the Sultan's irade. On the strength of this declaration, I consented to take back my note.

I heard nothing again from the Porte all yesterday, but in the middle of the night Saïd Pasha arrived to tell me that the military and naval authorities had made such strong representations to His Majesty on the impossibility of troops, artillery, munitions, and stores being landed with safety on the open beach at Aboukir, that His Majesty had commanded him again to entreat me to induce your Lordship to allow the disembarkation to take place at Alexandria, on condition that the troops should merely file through the town and march at once to Aboukir.

Early this morning Saïd Pasha again returned, accompanied by Reschid Bey, to tell me that the Sultan had sent him to renew his prayer, and to make the following additional proposals:—

His Majesty having heard that his attitude had engendered suspicions in the mind of the English people, he was prepared to take any step to remove our misgivings. If only Her Majesty's Government would allow his troops to land at Alexandria under

the conditions already named, instead of sending 5,000 men, he would reduce the number to 1,000 or 2,000. Baker Pasha should go as second in command, and in addition should be given equal authority with Dervish Pasha, the Commander-in-chief, to dispose of the troops in accordance with the wishes of the English Commander. The troops themselves should be as much under the control of the English Generals as in the Crimea. Baker Pasha should take with him as many English officers as he might desire to select. Furthermore, the Sultan was prepared from henceforth to enter into the closest friendship with England; to discharge from about his person and service all those who had hitherto stood in the way of a good understanding; and he concluded by acknowledging that he had been wrong in doubting her friendship and assuming so reserved an attitude towards her.

The foregoing assurance was conveyed to me by the Foreign Minister, in conjunction with one of the Sultan's personal familiars, so that it represents the united conclusions of the Porte and Palace. In fact, the Sultan is on his knees.

I would therefore venture most earnestly to urge Her Majesty's Government to acquiesce in His Majesty's prayer. Your Lordship knows how little faith I have in his sincerity, but for all that I think we have now a real chance of permanently establishing good relations with him. Moreover, although we might have broken off the negotiations for the Convention, on the strength of the hostile attitude assumed by the Ottoman Government in stopping mules, muleteers, provisions, and pack saddles, with an unwilling admission from Austria and Germany that we were justified in doing so, their opinion would be the other way if the negotiations fall through in consequence of our refusing the Turks a passage to Aboukir from Alexandria.

The Sultan also promised to do everything we wished for with regard to the Proclamation, as well as to cause the public press to modify its tone, of which I have made frequent complaints. Though I would venture to recommend to your Lordship a favourable consideration of the Sultan's pleas, I have maintained a very firm attitude with the Ottoman Delegates, and have held out no expectations of their being acceded to. On the contrary, I have said that surrender has come too late.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 684.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 438.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 31, 1882, 10.30 P.M.

FOLLOWING from Lord Dufferin, No. 379, dated 29th instant:—

[See No. 657.]

Is there any objection, if the rapid transit can be secured? This inquiry is made of you confidentially, for purposes of consideration.